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The Playground

SEPTEMBER, 1928



Summer Wanes but Summer Joys
Live Long in Memory

VOLUME XXII, NO. 6

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The Playground

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MILWAUKEE
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September 1, 1928.

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LOST TO THE WORLD!

The Playground

VOL. XXII, No. 6

SEPTEMBER, 1928

The World at Play

Playground Essential.—A playground is an educational facility, the Supreme Court of Michigan has ruled. It upheld the will of Miss Mary Andrews, school teacher, who died in 1924, leaving a large part of her estate to the city of Dowagiac for a children's playground. Cousins attacked the will on the ground that it created a perpetuity, but the Supreme Court cited a statute exempting educational bequests from the ordinary provisions as to perpetuity and declared "the opportunity for play and exercise is now considered part of a child's education."—Clipping in Ellsworth, Mich., *Tradesman*, March 29, 1928.

Too Much Idle Amusement?—To many today play connotes largely inactivity. In reply to a questionnaire sent out by the University of Kansas in which a large number of children and adolescents were asked to list their play activities during the previous week, thousands of boys and girls named the following:

- Riding in an automobile
- Going to the movies
- Chewing gum
- Listening to the victrola
- Looking over the Sunday papers
- Reading jokes or funny sayings
- Teasing somebody

Many boys of sixteen and over listed smoking and just "loafing" and "lounging."

It is clear that there is much popular confusion between play and mere amusement, and that it is necessary to educate the country as a whole to what play and recreation really mean.

Contributions of Museums to Outdoor Recreation.—"Outdoor recreation takes one physically to nature. Nature study—whether in the field, the museum or the school—takes one intellectually to nature. Somehow in the course of these transportations, one may reach nature spiritually.

"Recreation and study are closely coupled, but

if the linkage is to be defined the probe must reach the dark recesses of the man's inner life. However, without probing we may know that recreation in the out-of-doors and study of the out-of-doors—both are parts of the needful preparation for highest citizenship, whether spiritual or civic."

Sport for Morality.—"Intemperance in automobiles, use of liquor and petting among college students must be stopped because it is not the time to investigate these matters."—Dr. Little, President of the University of Michigan, from Associated Press Dispatch.

Dr. Little avowed his unqualified support for intercollegiate athletics, stating that he knew of no substitute to occupy the physical and mental powers of thousands of students interested in such sports.

Survey of Recreation Facilities, Seattle, Washington.—Soon after taking office, Mayor Bertha K. Landes of Seattle, appointed an unofficial committee composed of two members of the School Board, two of the Park Board and one at large to study in a cooperative way the municipal recreation program. It was hoped that as a result of the survey the way might be found to correlate all the recreational facilities of the city now under municipal control, with the constant aim in view of avoiding duplication, cutting down unnecessary overhead and utilizing the combined facilities of both school and park systems for the benefit of Seattle citizens.

The Survey Committee has made its report in an attractively issued booklet which incorporates the study made of school and park grounds, buildings and auditoriums, their seating capacity and equipment of all kinds. A recreational map has been prepared, accompanied by tables, and the city is now in a position to know where it stands in the recreation field.

One of the statements made in the survey is that slightly less than one per cent of the total land area is occupied by playground property under the school and park boards. About 6½ per cent of the total land area is occupied by parks and playgrounds under these boards. There is one acre of recreational space for every 193 people. It is estimated that the amount of play space per child is about 136 square feet. Of this space 66 square feet are provided by the schools; 70 by the Park Department.

A New County Park Commission.—Niagara County, New York, is one of the most recent additions to the list of counties providing parks. There are seven members on the commission and several tours of inspection have been made throughout the county to determine the most desirable sites for proposed parks. The County Board of Supervisors included in its budget for 1927 an appropriation to cover the expenses of a preliminary engineering survey and comprehensive park and playground plan.

Developments in Tulsa.—Tulsa, Oklahoma, is using for recreation purposes an old power plant on property which formerly belonged to the Water Department. When the city's water supply was brought from other sources the property was turned over to the Park Department, which converted it into swimming pools. One of these pools, 186 feet long and 70 feet wide, has a depth of from 18 inches to 3½ feet. This is opened 3½ months of the year from 8 to 12, free to children sixteen years old and under. Free swimming instruction is given. For all over sixteen years of age a charge of 15c. was made if the swimmer had his own suit. A number of these pools are in operation.

The promotion of motion pictures in the Park is one of the activities of the Tulsa Park Department. Three reels of educational pictures and one comedy are shown. The pictures are secured at very low cost from various universities in the state. Community singing is a part of the program. In one locality, an industrial section, where the boys demand a more active program, an entertainment of boxing and other athletic activities is put on.

Salt Lake City Increases Its Per Capita Cost for Recreation.—Salt Lake City is now spending more than \$270,000 a year for recreation or approximately \$2.04 per capita. The city has ex-

pended considerable sums during the past two years for additional acreage. It now owns Mueller Canyon and Mountain Park of approximately 600 acres, located about twelve miles from the city and providing opportunity for all forms of outdoor recreation. There are three splendid bungalows completely furnished which will be rented to responsible parties on permit, a recreation building which will be made available for dancing and social recreation, and a large two-story barn, which is being converted into a camp for hikers. The city has also purchased 1,000 acres of land immediately adjacent to Mueller Park for additional expansion. The city proper is to have three more park playground sites.

A Bond Issue in Winston-Salem.—Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has passed a bond issue for \$1,500,000, of which one-tenth, or \$150,000, will be used for the improvement of recreation spaces. One colored playground will be improved at a cost of \$40,000 with four baseball diamonds, six tennis courts, a swimming pool 50 x 100 feet and a wading pool 36 feet in diameter. Three playgrounds for white children are also to be graded and improved.

Durham Inaugurates Dramatic Programs.—A drama program is a new development in Durham, North Carolina, sponsored by the Drama Department of Duke University and directed by the city's recreation department. A little theatre seating 100 people has been equipped in the City Hall, in a room used as a gymnasium and recreation center. Six plays given recently aroused much favorable comment.

Play Days in Virginia.—Richmond, Danville and Roanoke, Virginia, had play days on May 18th and 19th. Parades, games at parks and playgrounds for large groups, contests and stunts, brought together thousands of people. In Danville health activities were emphasized while in Roanoke, a new playground was formally opened.

A Superintendent of Recreation at San Diego.—W. A. Kearns, Director of Physical Education and Athletics, Oregon Agricultural College, has been employed as Superintendent of Recreation at San Diego. He will work with both the schools and the municipal recreation service.

Municipal Camps in the West.—Among the western cities maintaining municipal recreation camps are Seattle, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Sacramento, Stockton, Fresno and Los Angeles. Berkeley is establishing its second camp and Fresno and Salt Lake City are maintaining camps for the first time. Five recreation workers are employed at the Los Angeles County Camp.

A Mother's Playground Club.—"Last year," states the 1927 bulletin of the Playground Board of Oak Park, Illinois, "saw the organization of the first mother's playground club when a group of twenty-five women in the Hans Andersen district met on the playground, under the direction of the play leader. They were relieved of the care of their babies and smaller children, who were entertained by one of the leaders, and the mothers then joined in a program of games, with the serving of refreshments closing the afternoon's events. The director of playgrounds gave short talks on the aims of the Board, and the women were thus kept in close touch with playground events and objectives. One of the most interesting results was the organization of a small group of mothers who undertook to call in their cars for smaller children living in the neighborhood to take them to and from the playground."

Baseball for Juniors in Elmira.—Elmira boys under seventeen years of age will have an opportunity to learn to play baseball in a scientific manner. A special worker has been employed by Recreation Commissioner Schooner and a baseball school was opened on April 28th. In rainy weather the classes were held in the old vocational school building, where lessons could be illustrated on the blackboard, as in college coaching. The boys are learning the theory of baseball, how to organize and manage teams, how to bat and how to play in various positions.

The boys are divided into midget teams—boys thirteen years old and under and juniors, sixteen years and under. In the American Legion League all boys who will not reach their 19th birthday before January 1st, 1929, are eligible.

A Home Play Campaign in Tacoma.—From April 1st to May 15th the Department of Playgrounds and Recreation of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, in cooperation with the Par-

ent Teacher Association, the Free School Council, the Council of Women's Clubs, Juvenile Welfare Council, Federation of Social Agencies, Federated Improvement Clubs and the *News Tribune*, held a backyard playground contest. One contest was limited to boys and girls under sixteen years of age who competed in constructing, without assistance, a backyard swing and a sand box. The second contest was opened to all families in the city for the best all-round backyard playground.

A committee on awards selected the winners in the two classes, the playground equipment being judged on the basis of construction and design, safety, originality and usefulness.

A competition between grade school districts of the six intermediate school divisions of the city was held to determine the greatest number of backyard playgrounds conducted during the contest. Prizes were offered the districts winning this competition and trophy cups were given for the individual competition.

Citizenship Week and Junior Elections.—One of the outstanding features of the 1927 program of the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley was the Citizenship Week and Junior Elections, designed to inculcate fundamentals of good citizenship. It was in every respect a complete miniature of the regular system of election which exists in the United States, beginning with the organization of parties and the adoption of constructive party platforms, district meetings of playground delegates for the discussion of platforms and party conventions for the nomination of candidates.

Primary elections were then held by all three parties amid much enthusiasm and the climax and peak of interest among thousands of voters came in the general election. Ballots similar in every way to regular election ballots were used. Both boys and girls were candidates and went from playground to playground speaking for their platforms and candidacy. The responsibility of voting honestly and of making it a clean and honest election was placed squarely on the children with very little coercion from instructors, and it is with much pride that the workers learned that there was not a single dishonest act in voting attempted and that the ballot boxes were regarded by the children as an almost sacred trust. Twelve boys and one girl were elected to office.

The hearts of our city fathers warmed up to the Junior officials and they turned over the reins

of city government to them for a day at a regular meeting of the City Council. The boys measured up to the task given them. The Junior officials were taken to Harrisburg for a visit to the Capitol. During the elections talks were given on all playgrounds on honesty in voting, the trust of public office, good government and citizenship.

Activities for Industrial Girls in Cincinnati.—On April 30th the Cincinnati Public Recreation Commission held a Play Night for industrial girls under the direction of Miss Mabel Madden.

The Girls' Municipal Volley Ball League had a very successful season. The teams have been divided into two leagues of eight teams each. Basket ball and game classes have also been popular with the girls.

Golf in Detroit.—When the golf season opened this spring, the city of Detroit placed thirty-six holes in play on its three municipal courses. When another season gets under way, the city will have exactly double this number, according to the May 27th issue of the *Detroit News*.

The opening of the River Rouge course is the fourth link in the chain of municipally owned and operated golf courses in Detroit. Before the close of this season another nine holes will be added to the present nine-hole Palmer Park course; next year a new nine will be ready at Chandler Park and the Rouge course will be increased to eighteen holes.

It was in 1922 that the city launched itself into the business of golf with the operation of a municipal nine-hole golf course on Belle Isle. The receipts last year were \$111,681 and the expenditures \$86,570—a profit of over \$25,000. The fees charged are moderate. At Palmer Park and Belle Isle 25c a round for the nine-hole courses is charged. Rackham charges \$1.00 for eighteen holes; Rouge, 40c for nine—this will be 75c or \$1.00 for the eighteen holes when completed. Chandler will in all probability be 25c, but the fee has not been definitely decided.

A year hence nearly 400 acres of municipal property will have been diverted to the use of golfers.

Lawn Bowling in Detroit.—Before the close of the present season the Detroit Lawn Bowling Club will have twenty-four greens, one of the

largest lawn bowling layouts in the country. The present greens were built in 1922 to accommodate twelve rinks. Soon after a club was formed which now numbers 175 members. Last summer the City Council voted to build another green large enough for twelve rinks, and this will be opened later in the season.

Kite Craft in Detroit.—More than 400 boys exhibited models of their handcraft work in the Thirteenth Annual Kite Day and Aircraft Exhibition sponsored by the Department of Recreation at Belle Isle. The contest was opened to juveniles (under 12 years) and junior boys (12 to 16 years inclusive) in four classes of kites. These were, standard frame with novelty design of cover, box kites, comedy design of frame and cover, and novelty design of frame and beauty type. No boy was permitted to enter more than one event and before entering had to fly his kite at least 100 feet to qualify.

Medals were awarded to the winners. There were no awards in the aircraft exposition, although more than 50 toy designs were shown.

Gardening and Recreation for Detroiters.—The Vacant Lot, Home and School Gardening Division of the Department of Recreation each year provides a field of activity for more than 75,000 Detroiters. Last year the produce raised by 76,608 people had a total value of \$6,080, not including vegetables which were canned, which were valued at \$3,000. Adults make a large portion of the membership and enrollment has grown steadily every year from the beginning of the garden movement.

Trolley Car Publicity.—The St. Louis Public Service Company has issued an attractive four leaf folder, three pages of which are devoted to publicity for the local recreation movement. The first page announced the opening on June 4th of the tenth season of St. Louis Municipal Opera and listed the program to be given in the city's great outdoor theatre. The program was as follows:

June 4th—"Princess Flavia"; June 11th—"The Merry Widow"; June 18th—"The Vagabond King"; June 25th—"No, No, Nanette"; July 2nd—"Rose Marie"; July 9th—"The Student Prince"; July 16th—"The Lady in Ermine"; July 23rd—"The Song of the Flame"; July 30th—"Countess Maritza"; August 6th—"The Love

Song"; August 13th—"Mary"; August 20th—"Aida."

The two inside pages were devoted to the Backyard Playground Contest to be conducted by the Park and Playground Association of St. Louis and the St. Louis Safety Council.

Notes from Spokane, Washington.—Under the leadership of Ben Clark, Supervisor of Playgrounds, Spokane has conducted an eight class tennis tournament in cooperation with the *Spokane Chronicle*. Several hundred people participated. A special worker has been employed for the promotion of community music.

A Mountain Park for Pasadena.—After four years of effort Pasadena is assured of a splendid mountain park at Pine Flats, twenty-six miles back in the mountains. This decision followed a recent visit to the site by federal, county and municipal representatives. It is estimated that the site when developed will serve as many as 6,000 people a day.

Developments in Tacoma.—The annual report recently issued by Walter Hansen, Superintendent of Recreation in Tacoma, shows an attendance of 127,936 at seventeen summer playgrounds and of 36,937 at the two municipal beaches and two plunges. A splendid evening program at six intermediate school gymnasiums, twelve junior baseball teams, twenty-three adult basketball teams, twelve girls' basketball teams, gymnasium and recreation classes and an indoor baseball league for business men. Fifteen community wide events were promoted.

An Art Hobby Shop and School.—The Santa Barbara, California, Recreation Center has completed a successful year with its art hobby shop and school, which is giving an opportunity for the development of art hobbies under competent instructors. These instructors are employed only when a sufficient number of students enroll for any given class. Some of the subjects were art, needle-work, plastic arts and basket making.

Roque in Fort Worth.—The Park Department of Fort Worth installed its roque courts about five years ago. An Association was organized and officers elected; each member paid an entrance fee of \$2.00 and a certain amount per month for ground upkeep. The Department and

the Association have shared expenses in everything connected with the game, the building of the courts and their upkeep and similar costs. The Recreation Department, however, furnishes light. There is a league made up of about forty teams.

The courts are open at all times to anyone except at such times as league games are being played. The cost of constructing one of the courts is approximately \$60, and to put one in good playing condition takes two or three months. The court is rolled with a heavy roller and afterward sprinkled with sand. Following this a wire brush is used.

A Field House at a University.—The Women's Department of Physical Education and Athletics of the University of Michigan has an unusually artistic and at the same time practical field house. An outstanding feature is the lighting system established in the lower floor containing the showers and indoor sports practice courts where there is a brilliant flooding of lights. Another feature is the splendid equipment of lockers, laundry or drying equipment, showers and toilets, all of excellent material, of splendid coloring, well ventilated and lighted, clean and sanitary, and with ample space.

The indoor sports practice rooms containing facilities for indoor golf, archery and other sport courts are a remarkable example of this type of room. There are four bowling allies of the best and latest equipment. The upstairs rest rooms, club rooms and offices are artistically furnished with the best material available. The building also has a kitchen and a dining room and there is a large room with an open fireplace which may be used as an auditorium and for dancing; on one side of the building is a large piazza.

The field house adjoins a large athletic field which is being increased in size.

At the Center of Seattle's Rainbow.—The Collins Playground and Field House of Seattle, located midway between Lake Washington and Puget Sound, has often been called "the center of Seattle's Rainbow," or the heart of the city's only cosmopolitan center.

In 1906 the Collins Playground with its area of approximately three acres, was purchased by the Board of Park Commissioners as Seattle's first public supervised playground. In 1912 the Board constructed the Field House, dedicating its use free to the public for recreation, social pleas-

ures and educational pursuits. The assembly halls are used for gymnasium classes, dances, dramatics, musicals, institutes, civic welfare meetings, lectures, addresses and a variety of social gatherings.

During the past few weeks, "Master Skylark" has been played by different casts at each of the Field Houses operated under the direction of the Board of Park Commissioners with over four hundred children taking an active part. The scenic effects and costumes have been designed and constructed through the cooperative efforts of the playground workers, and the play has been staged by the senior boys of each district under direction of the Department's instructors and directors.

Participating in the play were Slavs, Negroes, Chinese, Japanese, Russian and Turkish Jews, and Caucasians. The children were chosen from the daily attendance of interested youngsters, with no thought of providing special entertainment.

Savannah, Georgia, Secures Recreation Facilities.—The County Commissioners of Chatham County, of which Savannah is the county seat, have recently donated to the city 728 acres of land to be used for the construction of four golf courses and a number of athletic fields. In addition provision will be made on this area for picnics, outings and similar activities. It is planned to build the four golf courses in such a way that one club house will serve them all. Two courses have been completed at a cost of \$166,000.

Augusta, Georgia, Aids Rural District.—The recreation program of Augusta, Georgia, has spread to the rural section of Richmond County in which the seat is located. On May 17 the Richmond County Recreation Association was organized as a branch of Augusta's Community Service. An interesting feature of the program was the track meet held on June 16th when the children and young people of the rural sections and small communities competed with groups from the city.

A Golf Course for Augusta.—The city of Augusta has secured 100 acres of land which will be developed by a Municipal Golf Association as a public golf course. This plan is being followed because the city is not in a position at the present time to undertake the development.

Community Centers in Utica, New York.—Nearly 47,000 people, the largest number on

record, attended the Utica Community Centers during the season which closed April 30th. There were three types of programs—the "community nights," primarily for adults, which offered a weekly program consisting of a short entertainment followed by an hour of dancing; recreation nights for young people and athletic nights.

Commenting editorially on the report on the centers, issued by the Department of Recreation, the Utica Daily Press of May 4th says:

"It would reveal lack of appreciation not to refer to the report of the Department of Recreation on the activities of the Utica Community Centers, which have just closed their season. It appears that these centers are growing in popularity. The attendance increased greatly during the past season and the various activities on a better and higher scale.

"These centers serve a very useful purpose. One of the faults found with cities is that people do not know their neighbors. These centers do away with that weakness to a large extent. They center about the schools, where all parents have children and children always are a bond of common interest. This common interest is emphasized and the community is, therefore, strengthened. A sense of locality is also promoted and that is a factor of importance in creating among people ties of attachment, friendship and cooperation. Whatever promotes community life is deserving of support."

Community House at Dorchester, Mass.—Dorchester is to have a community house costing \$40,000 which will be constructed of tapestry brick and stone in Colonial style. Its entrance will be a portico of two large white columns. There will be a large auditorium at one end of the ground floor with a stage for presenting plays and entertainments. The hall will have a seating capacity of approximately 400 and a gallery which will hold 100. Removable seats will make it possible for the hall to be used for basketball games and gymnasium classes. On the same floor will be dressing rooms for men and women with shower baths for each. The office, waiting room and billiard room will also be on the main floor.

In the basement will be four bowling alleys. A large space has been set aside for a swimming pool.

New England Holds a Music Festival.—Approximately 3,000 boy and girl musicians from

the public schools of New England gathered in Boston on May 26th for their Fourth Annual Music Festival. As in previous years the festival included band concerts and concert programs on Boston Common where temporary band stands were set up. About forty bands, and drum and bugle corps took part in the festival. The program called for two groups of numbers played by the bands; the first to be played by the senior and junior high school bands and the second by all of the bands taking part, making an ensemble of approximately 2,000 players. While the band festival was taking place on the Boston Common, 24 orchestras with more than 1,000 players met at Mechanics' Field for the Third Annual New England School Contest. The climax of the festival was reached in the concert given by the New England High School Orchestra of 216 players selected from the high schools of New England. Rehearsals began on May 24th under the direction of Dr. Victor Rebmann, director of music in Yonkers public school.

The festival was held under the auspices of an association formed by the public school supervisors, instructors, band and orchestra leaders and their friends. In this organization known as "The New England Music Festival Association" are included as members all of the children participating, each band and orchestra paying a membership fee of \$5.00. The festival is made possible through the cooperation of the Rotary Club of Boston which acts as host to the children.

A Playground Song.—Groups of children playing harmonicas, strumming ukuleles and singing songs on the Los Angeles playgrounds have been an inspiration to Charles Wakefield Cadman, the well-known composer and have brought forth a new song from his pen. Mr. Cadman has named this, his latest song, "The Playground Song of Youth" and has dedicated it to the children of the Los Angeles playgrounds. At a recent meeting of the Yosemite Playground Community Chorus a special program was arranged for the dedication of the song. Nigel de Brulier, a moving picture actor and musical director of the Yosemite Chorus, brought a group of playground children who were taught to sing the new song under the direction of the composer. The song has met with such enthusiastic response that it will be given first place in the official song book of the Los Angeles Playground Department.

An International Clubhouse.—An interest-

ing project in international sports is that of the Richford Frontier Clubhouse reported in the March 31st issue of the Boston "Transcript." The clubhouse will be erected on the border line of Vermont and Quebec with the golf course, ski jump and toboggan slides in the United States and the clubhouse, hotel and bungalows in Canada. Under the plan of the directors the club membership will comprise exclusively residents of the United States and Canada who are interested in the promotion of international sports. The club will have excellent facilities for summer and winter sports. One of the features planned for the club property is an aviation field.

A Refectory That Is Different.—The Park Department of Salem, Mass., in 1927 opened its first refectory on the steamship pier at Salem Willows Park. The head house on this pier, a rather dilapidated building, was rebuilt on the inside and fitted up as a ship's cabin with the help of Salem sea captains and other seafaring men of the day of sailing vessels. The interior was equipped with a beamed ceiling, ship's knees, mast going up through from the keel, ship's lanterns, clock, bell, wheel, compass, charts, life-preservers and port holes. The windows were constructed so that they would drop down out of sight.

Men of Salem made history in sailing vessels and because of the history it seemed fitting to carry out the project. The name of one of Salem's clipper ships "Witch of the Wave" was taken for the refectory.

Gifts from large corporations as well as individual citizens have helped make the refectory possible.

A Banquet for Volunteer Leaders.—One hundred people attended the closing banquet of the third year training course in social recreation conducted under the auspices of the Detroit Department of Recreation by Miss Viola Armstrong, Director of Social Recreation. In addition to addresses by guests of honor there were a class history, a class prophecy, the presentation of the scholarship at Pocono College, and several short addresses by class members, together with songs led by two of the song leaders.

To increase the scholarship fund, two plays, *The Travelers* by Booth Tarkington and *What Men Live By* by Tolstoi, have been given. Through this scholarship one of the members of

the class will be enabled to attend the People's College at Pocono, Pa. An event of interest being planned for members of the class, or volunteer leaders, as they are called, is a week-end house party.

Buffalo Opens Seventeen School Playgrounds.—After a strenuous campaign on the part of friends of the playgrounds conducted by the Buffalo City Planning Association, the Buffalo City Council unanimously restored sixteen play leaders cut off in the annual budget for purposes of economy.

Last year for the first time in its history the Board of Education of Buffalo opened as an experiment seventeen of its school playgrounds, under its physical training teachers as directors, during the vacation months. The interest and appreciation shown by the children was so great that this year the Board of Education has appropriated \$38,000 to open, partially equip and supply directors for twenty-eight school grounds during the summer. Carl Burkhardt, Supervisor of Physical Training under the Board of Education, who will be in charge, expects to have much of the playground equipment made by the boys in the shops of the vocational schools. This will develop a fine cooperative effort between the vocational schools and the playgrounds themselves.

Recreation Progress in Evansville.—"One short year ago," states an article in the Evansville Courier and Journal, April 29th, "the average man, woman or child of the city was quite unfamiliar with the term municipal recreation. To-day there are but few who are not familiar with it. Drastic strides have been made in this field of civic enterprise in that twelve month period. Forward steps have been taken since G. T. Eppley assumed the duties of Evansville's recreation director on January 15th, 1927. People generally have been loud in their acclaim of this infant municipal project."

The article cites some of the activities which have been the outgrowth of this rapid development. Indoor baseball, basketball and volleyball have brought out hundreds of participants and thousands of spectators. The organization of the city tennis club and the installation of flood lighted tennis courts have given great impetus to the game. The utilization of the river for recreation has been particularly noteworthy; a boat club has been organized and many water sports developed.

Holiday celebrations and a community center program, playgrounds, service bureau activities and band concerts have been prominent on the program.

"A firm foundation, not a group of flashy events which might catch the eye of the people for the moment" is the objective of the Recreation Department promoting the work.

Cleveland Selects Its Champion Horseshoe Pitcher.—In May the Cleveland School Board, in cooperation with the Cleveland press, held a tournament to determine the city's champion horseshoe tosser. The contestants were divided into four classes—boys under eighteen, boys and men over eighteen, girls under eighteen and girls and women over eighteen. Preliminary contests were held on nineteen community playground centers, the playgrounds being divided into four districts. The final contest took place at Public Hall in connection with the Sportsman and Outdoor Exposition.

A Newspaper Playtime Club.—The Denver, Colorado, *Post* has a Playtime Club for boys and girls. Each member enrolling in the club receives an attractive bookmark containing the club slogan, motto and yell. Birthdays are remembered by greeting cards from the *Post*. A special column in the paper is devoted to the club and material is published which will help the members in their playtime. A recent issue of the column contains suggestions regarding trips to the city parks, the museum and nurseries to study nature. A plan is also given for making tailless kites. Games and contests are frequently outlined in the column.

New Playgrounds in Los Angeles.—Los Angeles is to have two new municipal playgrounds for which appropriations were recently approved by the Playground Commission. Twenty thousand three hundred and thirty dollars will be expended on the State Street Playground for grading, landscaping, fencing and other improvements for the erection of a community club house and wading pool and for apparatus and equipment. The new playground at Watts will be developed at a cost of \$5,315. Grounds will be improved by grading and fencing and a field house and pergola will be erected.

Portland Enlarges Its Music Program.—Fifteen years ago Cyrus H. K. Curtis gave to his

native city the largest municipal organ in the United States. The municipal organ concerts of Portland held under the auspices of the city's music commission are widely known. Portland now has a municipal orchestra, organized last year under the auspices of the commission, with a membership of eighty-five men and women.

Jacksonville's Music Memory Contest.—

The 1928 music memory contest held under the auspices of the Playground and Recreation Department of Jacksonville, Florida, was by far the largest and most successful ever held in that city. During the six weeks of the contest 4,955 boys, girls and adults became familiar, through victrolas, pianos, organs, radios and special concerts, with the twenty-four selections on which the test was based. Elimination contests were then held in the various schools and the ten best boys and girls were chosen as the school team to represent it in the finals. At the same time the negroes were holding their first music memory contest in which eight schools were represented. Much enthusiasm was shown by the negro parents, teachers and other adults as well as boys and girls participating.

More than 450 boys, girls, men and women took part in the final contest and fifty-seven perfect papers were handed in. Each of the winners received a gold medal donated by the Friday musicale.

The Boys' Band of Elmira Wins State Contest.—Before 5,000 people at the Syracuse Airport the Elmira Community Service—Lions' Club Boys' Band won the state-wide contest conducted in May as a feature of the State Convention of Lions' Clubs. In their white uniforms with blue collars and gold-braided caps the Elmira players immediately captured the favor of the large crowd present. The band is composed of more than forty boys ranging from ten to fourteen years of age.

Harmonica Charts Available.—M. Hohner, Inc., 114 East 16th Street, New York City, has issued a series of charts for teachers and schools for the playing of four-part harmony on the harmonica, and a number of popular selections are available in this form, together with suggestions for teaching. The large chart (11" x 15¼") for the teacher's use, contains the four parts to be played by the pupils in the orchestra as well as the

piano accompaniment. The set of four small cards (3¼" x 5") contains the soprano, alto, tenor and bass parts respectively for the individual players of the harmony group.

Recreation workers will find these charts exceedingly valuable. They will be glad to know that the company will send one set free on application to the Hohner Company.

A Drama Tournament in Rock Island.—

Rock Island, Illinois, is the latest city to report on a drama tournament. On April 11th, 12th and 13th, twelve plays were presented, a number of them by church groups, several by Parent Teacher Associations. Tickets were sold at the rate of 35c for single tournaments, 75c for all three evenings. Each group kept whatever money was made over its share of the expenses, and a number of the organizations realized a good profit.

The plays were judged on the following basis:

Unity	20 points
Gesture and Facial Expression...	10 "
Voice	10 "
Smoothness	10 "
Scenery and Lightning.....	10 "
Costuming	10 "
Make-Up	10 "
Choice of Play.....	20 "

To eliminate the necessity of twelve different sets of scenery and the loss of time in changing scenes, each group was required to use grey neutral drapery as a background.

Costume Service in Oakland.—The report of the Costume Service of the Recreation Department of Oakland, California, for the month of April shows a wide use of the costumes which the Department loans to schools and other organizations for their dramatic program. The total number of orders was 34; the number of costumes loaned schools, churches and similar groups 817; the total number of accessories 665.

The Playground in Saving Child Life.—

The leading article of the May issue of *American Childhood* published by Milton Bradley Company, 120 East 16th Street, New York City, is a symposium on playgrounds in which a number of recreation executives and others interested in children's play have taken part. Activities in a number of cities are described and illustrations are shown. Single copies of the magazine may be secured for twenty-five cents.

What About Those 1,000,000,000 Hours?—"Philadelphia children," states the recently issued report of the Playgrounds Association of Philadelphia, of which Charles H. English is executive secretary, have a total of more than 1,000,000,000 leisure hours a year." And yet the report points out the per capita cost for the city's public recreation was only 33 cents while for correctional institution the cost per capita was \$187.54.

The report tells what the Playgrounds Association has attempted to do during the past year to promote the proper use of the 1,000,000,000 of leisure hours. Among the accomplishments were the securing of the year-round executive, the organization of a playground and recreation council representing the municipal and private groups of the city conducting recreation, the establishment of the Recreation Service Bureau and the conducting of four playgrounds. It is the hope of the Bureau to establish at an early date a Drama Department with a full time worker in charge.

When Is a City Big Enough?—"When is a city big enough?" was one of the questions asked at the Dallas City Planning Convention.

Among the various answers, the first was, "When it ceases to provide adequately for its people in terms of living."

What size must a city attain to reach the point when the leisure hours of its citizens shall begin to have lessened value?

At what point in a city's growth do citizens begin to have their leisure hours grow less valuable?

Boys' Achievement Exhibition.—On May 3rd, 4th and 5th a Boys' Achievement Exhibition was held in Monrovia, California, under the auspices of the Rotary, Kiwanis, Exchange, Unity and University Clubs. The exhibit was a part of National Boys' Week arranged for the purpose of showing what the boys of the community were doing in their leisure time.

In planning for the exhibit there were committees on location, exhibits, judges, awards, publicity and printing, finance, program, music and decorations. The exhibits were divided into a number of sections—collections, mechanical and handcraft, art, woodwork, livestock and books.

Beautiful ribbons and other special awards were given the winners in the various sub-divisions; a silver cup was awarded the highest scorers in

each age group. The boy who had the most exhibits received a silver cup and a special cup was awarded the boys' club group class or other groups having the best all-round exhibit.

Nature Training School.—From June 2-16 a nature training school was conducted at Waddington, West Virginia, under the auspices of the social and educational institutions of Wheeling. Dr. Bertha Chapman Cady of the Coordinating Council on Nature Activities was director of the school. Waddington, an estate of 750 acres of wooded hills and farm, recently bequeathed to the city of Wheeling for recreational and educational purposes, provided a veritable out-of-doors museum. With its arboretum, greenhouses, great stretches of woodland and interesting geological formations, and its eight miles of trails leading through valleys and ravines, the estate provided an ideal setting for the school.

Rhode Island Observances.—For twenty years the Commissioner of Education of Rhode Island has sent each year to the schools of the state a pamphlet containing suggested patriotic exercises in school for May 4th, known as "Rhode Island Independence Day." This attractive booklet contains historical material, poems, songs and addresses.

Rhode Island Arbor Day on May 11th is another celebration in which the schools are vitally concerned. The Commissioner of Education this year issued a booklet entitled "Rhode Island Arbor Day," which contains suggestions for the thirty-seventh annual program for the observance of Arbor Day. In addition to the poems and selections there is a section on construction of bird houses with facts of interest about birds of the state.

A Calendar of World Heroes.—The World Hero Calendar Department of the National Council for Prevention of War, 532 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., has issued a calendar of world heroes comprising portraits of the twelve heroic figures chosen by children in schools in more than thirty countries. Each portrait is accompanied by the essay which won the prize in the competition of 1925-1926. The calendar is artistic as well as informational, and children will find it exceedingly interesting. Four copies of the calendar may be secured for \$1.00.



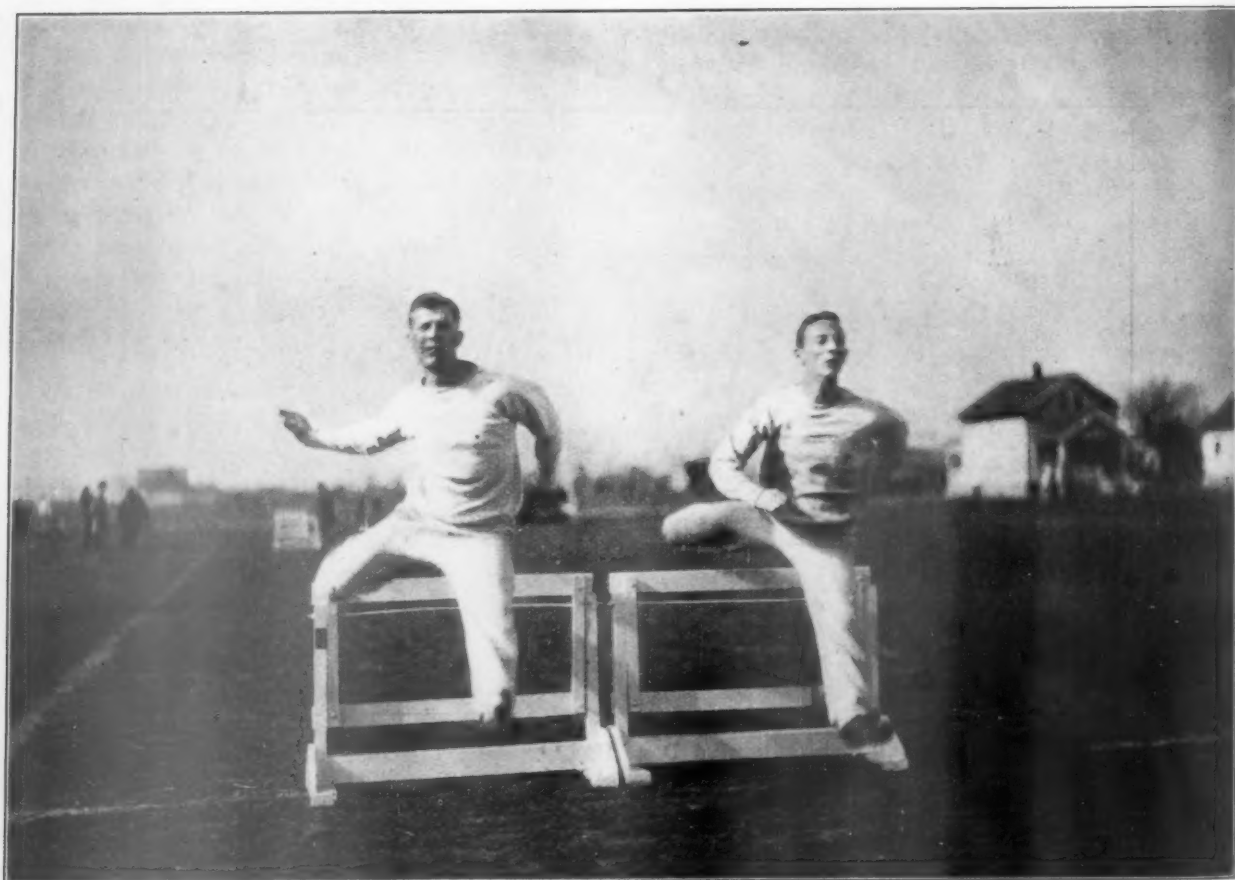
HARMON HALL, LEBANON, OHIO, COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER—GIFT OF WILLIAM E. HARMON



THE DAM AND SWIMMING POOL, HARMON PARK, LEBANON, OHIO
William E. Harmon believed that even swimming pools should be beautiful



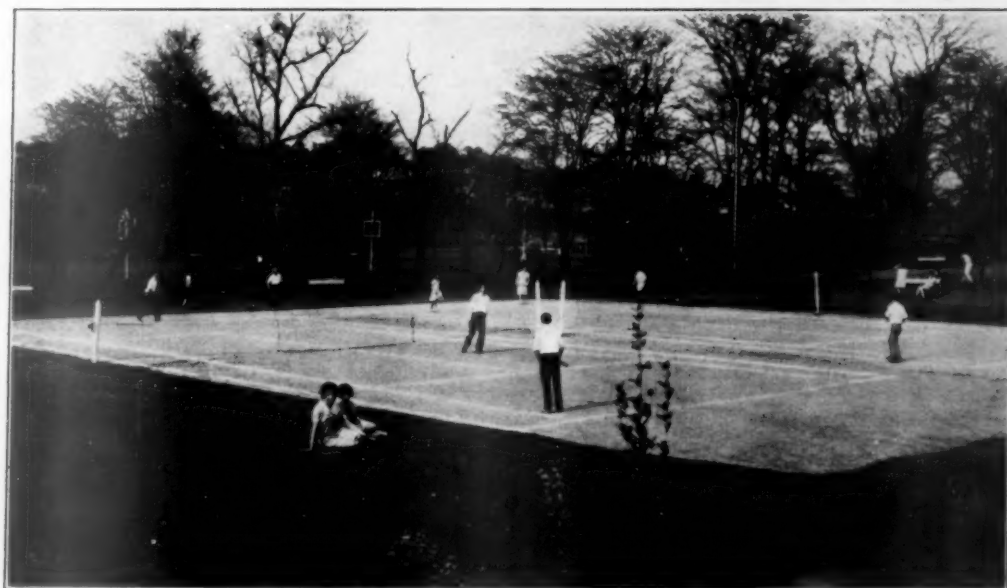
THE CHILDREN'S WADING POOL, HARMON PARK, LEBANON, OHIO



HURDLES, HARMON HALL, LEBANON, OHIO



MARBLES IN HARMON HALL, LEBANON, OHIO



THE TENNIS COURT, HARMON PARK, LEBANON, OHIO

In more than one hundred communities old and young for generations to come will have reason to be grateful to William E. Harmon as they enjoy the sunshine and the happy activities on the Harmon Fields.

The playground movement has been greatly helped by William E. Harmon's belief in it, his enthusiasm for it, his thinking of ways of building it up, as well as by his very substantial gifts to communities. It is altogether probable that even more has been accomplished in establishing playgrounds by the weight of Mr. Harmon's influence and example than through his direct gifts. He has helped immeasurably through sharing with others his own knowledge as to the practical value of parks and playfields.

HOWARD S. BRAUCHER.

Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, December 7, 1927, seven months before Mr. Harmon's death—and presented to him.

That the Board of Directors of the Playground and Recreation Association of America believe that the recreation movement in America has made much more substantial progress during the last few years not only because of the financial contributions which William E. Harmon has made but also because of the time and thought which he has given to the problems of the movement. The gift of the one hundred play fields to one hundred cities, the gift of the play center at Lebanon, Ohio, the prizes for the beautification of play areas, the education campaign to secure the setting aside permanently in new real estate subdivisions of adequate areas for park and playground purposes, the generous support of the general work of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, have all been a substantial contribution to the play life of the children and young people in America not for this generation alone but for many generations to come.

What One Man Did to Make Boys and Girls of Countless Generations Happy



WILLIAM E. HARMON
1862-1928

"No village, town or city in America would be without play space for its children if I could picture to its prosperous citizenship the vision that has been before my eyes and pressing on my heart for many years—a vision of countless generations of little ones finding health and strength on ground consecrated forever to their happiness—vacant land, the simplest of individual gifts and the most enduring, an indestructible monument to the donor—increasing in usefulness with the years—as permanent as civilization."

William E. Harmon

The picture which William E. Harmon saw with his mind's eye of the eternal qualities to be found in the land for sound bodies, character building and joy, might fittingly be described as his creed. He himself had experienced the constructive, wholesome fun of the open spaces; he knew of the temptations to which the games of the alleyways and streets must lead; his imagination had been fired by playgrounds he had seen in the old country which had served youth for centuries.

At the time of his death on July 15, 1928, there were one hundred and three communities in the United States in which his vision had taken form. In each is located a recreation tract known as "Harmon Field"; dedicated forever to the plays of children, the development of youth and the recreation of all.

It is not surprising that so much of the thought of Mr. Harmon's later years should look toward providing recreation space for the young, since part of his own boyhood was spent on the plains

of the new West. His father, Lieutenant William R. Harmon of the Tenth Cavalry Colored, was sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, a frontier post, in 1869 when the boy was seven years old. The great out-of-doors in a fairly undeveloped country presented endless opportunity for both real and imaginary games. Cumbersome buffaloes, shy of human sight, were roaming the plains in herds. Near the Fort was the reservation of the wildest of the Blanket Indians—Comanches, Kiowas and Apaches. An expert by nature with rifle and shot gun, William soon persuaded his father to be allowed to join the hunt and had felled his first buffalo before he was twelve. Twice in company with members of his father's troop, he crossed the plains on horseback.

At fourteen, he was sent to St. Mary's School in San Antonio, Texas, and while he was there his mother moved back to Lebanon, Ohio, the village of his birth. He joined her later, concluding his high school work and taking a short course in the National Normal University there. He left Lebanon soon afterward when an unsuccessful business venture of his father's forced him to give up a medical career and seek employment.

More than thirty years later, in April, 1911, after he had achieved success through a plan of selling home sites to small wage earners on installments, William E. Harmon went again to Lebanon. This time his purpose was clearly defined—he wanted to make some gift to the community which would combine usefulness for all with the greatest possible degree of permanence.

Land was his idea. He remembered with distaste that fields which tempted to baseball had borne "No Trespass" signs. Like the Ancient Mariner, the youths of the town were surrounded with that which they craved, but none of it was suited to their needs.

Mr. Harmon called together a group of his old friends whose interest in Lebanon would lead them to give a sympathetic hearing to his proposal. They were very frank in their disappointment at what he had chosen to do.

"What," they exclaimed, "does a town of three thousand inhabitants, without a tenement district, without factories, without foreigners, need with a park and playground?"

Mr. Harmon pictured for them what he saw—games for the small children, athletics and sports for the adults, a recreation hall for winter games, all under the direction of a trained leader; a place

which the entire community could own and develop eternally. Gradually they caught his enthusiasm. The informal group was enlarged and a committee formed to plan out with Mr. Harmon the best methods of serving Lebanon with recreation. The Civic Trust was created as a permanent body and incorporated under the state laws with the management entrusted to a board of seven trustees. The complete organization was not effected until 1915. The gift includes Harmon Hall with a gymnasium, dressing rooms, shower rooms, bowling alleys, billiard and pool rooms, a swimming pool, golf course, park, tennis courts, baseball grounds, athletic field and picnic grounds; and an endowment sufficient in amount to provide for up-keep and the salary of a trained physical director, yet not so large as to cause disinterest on the part of the townspeople.

Mr. Harmon saw the early skepticism of his Lebanon friends overcome and he also lived to see just what a town of "three thousand inhabitants" could do with recreation fields. Early in May of this year, he and Mrs. Harmon went to Lebanon to dedicate the Mollie Harmon Memorial Home for Gentlefolk, which he gave as a residence for elderly people in memory of his mother. One afternoon they were driving when their car stopped on a rise of land overlooking the playground. There they saw an automobile draw up at the entrance and at least a dozen children climb out. Children were on the running boards, in the seats and on the floor—practically everywhere that they could find foot space as long as they were to have a ride to the Field. As Mr. Harmon's glance followed them into the playground he noticed that every type of equipment was in use, all sorts of games and sports were in progress and children were lined up waiting their turn at the tennis courts. He was filled with satisfaction, for he, who as a youth in that very town had hoped for just such a spot for play, knew that children of succeeding generations need have no such yearnings. His dream had materialized, his benevolence was justified.

It is difficult to write of William E. Harmon, the humanitarian, without touching on his business life. His sight always took in the project which would have lasting value rather than the one which was gilded and soon tarnished. His interest in playgrounds through his philanthropic self carried over into his business self and as years brought him a realization of the immense good that could be accomplished through recreation he

adopted the policy that all subdivisions developed by his company should include a tract of land permanently reserved for play. "The situation looked portentous," he said, "the price we would have to pay for children yet unborn was a big one. We could not, however, escape the conclusion—the profits we could gain out of these play spaces would in the end be paid for by these very children—in reduced vitality and restricted lives."

The plan sold itself, for the people who were seeking homes in the suburbs were those with children and they were becoming increasingly alive to all matters affecting growing children. As the property was built up the little playfield loomed bigger and bigger and the last lots, usually difficult of sale, became more attractive.

When the Harmon Foundation was established in 1922, its first work was that of the Division of Playgrounds through which offers have been made to growing communities of contribution toward the purchase of permanent recreation tracts. One hundred and three playgrounds have been established through this Division, all of which bear in their title the names "Harmon" and "Field". Mr. Harmon hoped that each of the Foundation's playgrounds might have such a collective driving force of enthusiasm behind it that its influence would be widespread. He considered all Harmon Fields as "missionaries" in converting their own and surrounding localities to the permanent playground idea. Each year, contests are planned and honorariums given for those which have been responsible for the establishment of new perpetually dedicated play areas; and those whose development is outstanding beyond that required in a maintenance agreement.

Mr. Harmon's idea of helping individuals "to help themselves" all took shape in the Foundation's activities—awards for the encouragement of those whose work merited attention, a child study organization, a health center in South Carolina, an annuity plan for members of the nursing profession, and religious films for use by pastors in increasing church attendance. He believed that outright gifts, except in the case of the very young and the old, tended for the most part to warp initiative and planned his philanthropy with the hope that the individual might be stirred to do constructive and creative work.

There was, however, a certain division of humanity which the organized foundation could not help—those persons whose hearts he might reach and stir by some personal message or small gift.

This he preferred to do anonymously, assuming the name of his great grandfather for the purpose—Jedediah Tingle. Under this guise he was known to the children of the tenements to whose summer fun in the country he contributed, to many old people whose selfless lives had forced them to spend declining years without the happy surroundings which should accompany age, and to others who in struggling for self-expression had become discouraged and disheartened. Jedediah could "drop like a leaf from the sky—to give you a thrill of happiness—to make you realize that love is universal and that you are enfolded in its everlasting arms."

His touch, were it that of Jedediah Tingle or William E. Harmon, was always accompanied by something of the man himself—a man of understanding, sympathetic yet firm where character was forming, and full of the exuberance and enthusiasm of living.

A Short Course in Community Recreation Leadership.—The second annual short course in community recreation leadership held under the auspices of the University Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Conference of Social Work, was conducted from June 25 to July 6 at Madison. Instruction was given by J. R. Batchelor of the P. R. A. A. on program making and the art of getting folks to play. A number of members of the staff of the University of Wisconsin gave lectures and instruction in social games and dances, community music, the organization of community recreation, rural work, recreation leadership and play and the exceptional child. The course included visits to local playgrounds, the production of plays, demonstrations of various kinds and play hours. A registration fee of \$5.00 was charged.

A Rhododendron Festival in Asheville.—A "Rhododendron Festival" at Asheville, N. C., celebrated the establishment of a National Park in the Great Smoky Mountains. The program provided thirty-six official tours through the many large blooming areas of Western North Carolina. There were in addition water sports, golf and tennis tournaments, a pageant, social events, exhibits of arts and crafts, concerts and a festival program of sports.



LOS ANGELES PLAYGROUND CHILDREN IN A SAND MODELING CLASS PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON A SLEEPING DOG

Sand Modeling on the Los Angeles Playgrounds

By

JOHN C. HENDERSON,

*Supervisor of Playground and Community Center Activities, Department of Playground and Recreation,
Los Angeles, California*

Sand play has always been one of the most popular activities in the play program for younger children. Children instinctively like to play in sand and derive an immense amount of satisfaction from shaping the sand into hills and valleys, castles and tunnels, and a variety of other objects limited only by the imagination. If, however, skilled leadership is given to sand play, even greater pleasure and benefit can be derived by the child, for he can be taught much of the technique of modeling and sculpturing and give fuller scope to his creative abilities. The Playground and Recreation Department of the City of Los Angeles has recently stressed the sand modeling program through the temporary employment of a

highly skilled worker. The response on the part of the children was so enthusiastic that special work in sand modeling has been made a regular part of the playground program.

Sand working is essentially a cutting down process, requiring that the sand first be piled up into a rough approximation of the shape of the finished work, followed by the removing of portions of the material, either with the hands or with tools, to attain the desired result.

A sand suitable for this work is, of course, the first requisite. It was found that most of the sand used on playgrounds was unsuitable for good work, as a rule being too coarse and not "sharp" enough to bind well, even when moist. The best



FOUR DIFFERENT STAGES OF MODELING A RABBIT, LOS ANGELES, CAL.

sand for this purpose is what is usually spoken of as a No. 1 unwashed river sand or quick sand. This is a very fine, sharp sand, with sufficient soil mixed in to aid in binding when wet. Only a small amount of dirt is needed for binding purposes and this quantity is usually not sufficient to cause any staining of children's clothes. In practice, this may be tested by taking some of the wet sand on the finger and smearing it across a sheet of white paper. When dry and the sand particles brushed off, only a very light streak of dirt should be perceptible. Where obtainable, a fine sharp sea sand is quite satisfactory, although not quite so good as a sand containing a small quantity of silt.

The tools required are very simple, most of them obtainable at the five and ten cent store. A paring knife with pointed blade, a wallpaper scraper or a small, cheap mason's trowel, a few round sticks of various sizes (Lollypop sticks, pencils), and a soft paint brush an inch to two inches wide, are about all that are necessary. Roughing out can be done with the hands and the trowel or wallpaper scraper, finer cutting with a paring knife and fingers, and indenting with the finger and various sizes of sticks. The model, when completed to this state, will still have a somewhat rough appearance, which can be partly remedied

by careful smoothing with the hand or the flat of the knife blades. The final smoothing, however, should be done with a paint brush and water. The surface of the model should be carefully brushed, using plenty of water, and with a little practice a very smooth finish can be obtained. The sand should be kept quite moist while being worked; sufficiently so that when a handful of it is squeezed it will retain the imprint of the fingers without falling apart. It is well, perhaps, to have a large sprinkling can available to keep the sand sufficiently moist.

The work should be begun with simple projects, such as the shaping of letters and of subjects in bas-relief. In this work, the wet sand should be banked at a 45° angle and smoothed, after which various letters and designs can be sketched out on the inclined surface. Then the sand around the design is carefully removed with paring knife and wall scraper, leaving the design, or letters in relief.

Map making is almost as easy, and is very interesting to the children. At first, these may be outline maps of countries and states. Later, full relief maps can be made, showing mountain ranges and other features common to relief maps. Map work is usually done on a horizontal, rather than on an inclined surface.

The most difficult work is the sculpturing of figures in full relief. This should be started with objects familiar to the child, the shaping of common fruits or vegetables. Then, as skill increases, more difficult tasks, such as the modeling of small animals, can be undertaken. Later, some children will be able to model the human face with considerable skill.

In many ways, modeling at sand tables is preferable to working in sand boxes on the ground. The expense of providing enough tables to accommodate the children, however, in most instances is too great to make this possible.

Where desired, sand work may be colored by the use of calomine colors. An excellent way is to fill large, cheap salt cellars with various calomine colors and shake lightly over the surface.

Where a semi-permanent model is desired, cement may be sprinkled over the model in the same way as the calomine, the moisture from the sand causing the cement to harden in a thin but quite durable coating.

The plans of the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department include weekly periods for sand work at each playground, culminating at the end of the summer with inter-playground competition at one of the municipal beaches. It has been found that any person with some knowledge of the technique of working in other modeling materials can quickly achieve good results in sand and can act as an instructor. This eliminates the necessity of employing special instructors for the work.

In addition to its effective use as part of the play program, Los Angeles playground workers have found that sand modeling leads to other beneficial results. It provides a real stimulus to the imagination of the modeler by causing him to draw upon his ingenuity in working out his sand forms. It has also been found in some cases to serve as a spark to a latent creative impulse. This has resulted in several of the young modelers becoming interested in higher forms of artistic work. In other words, the modeling in sand has served as the first step in awakening the interest of its participants in creative endeavor.

At a recent exhibition of handicraft work held by the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department, an exhibit of sand modeling was installed. A sand box for the use of children who visited the exhibition was also set up. The results showed that the interest of children in such work was a natural one and could be easily aroused.

A Playground Schedule

The Recreation Department of the Memphis Park Commission has arranged the following schedule of hours of service.

The grounds are opened from 9 A. M. to 8 P. M.

Four Members of Playground Staff on Duty

1. Director (woman) from 12 noon to 8 P. M.
2. Assistant director (man) 9 to 12 Noon—3 8 P. M.
(Except on their special day and the day that the boys' art and handcraft director comes to the playground in early afternoon—Hours then shall be 9 to 12—2 to 5:30—6:30 to 8 P. M.)
3. Instructor—9 to 12 Noon—1:30 to 6 P. M.
(Except special day—hours then shall be 9 to 12—2 to 5:30—6:30 to 8 P. M. or 12 to 8 P. M.)
4. Assistant instructor—9 to 12—3 to 8 P. M.

Three Members of Playground Staff on Duty

Work as per schedule 1, 2, 3—above.

In order that the women of the playground staff may not be on duty every night during the week, the director on the grounds shall alternate their schedule of hours in such a way that on the playgrounds having three women on their staff, the women shall work three nights a week. The playground having two women on their staff shall arrange their schedule so that the women work three nights apiece—one woman on the staff each night—two on the special night.

On Rainy Days

The staff, after reporting condition of their grounds to the Recreation Office, shall spend their time in the neighborhood visiting children's parents and getting acquainted with the community in general.

Donated Areas.—Mrs. Sarah M. Lentz of Indianapolis, Ind., has donated thirteen and one-half acres for a public playground. Mrs. Lentz and her husband had owned the plot of land for forty-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Kennedy have given a five-acre playground to East Shelbyville, Ind.

Parks, Playgrounds and Swimming Pools

By

A. D. DAVIDSON,

Director of Public Welfare, Grand Rapids, Michigan

The governing factor in the location of parks and playgrounds is primarily the need to be met. In the case of playgrounds, schools and school grounds necessarily have their influence. Park development is influenced by school building facilities. It is needless, for example, to build a park community house if adjacent is a school building with a large gymnasium or auditorium or both. School plants should be considered in every recreation plan. In the establishment of playgrounds we must give consideration to the facilities of the schools and the school grounds in the locality.

PARKS AND THE PUBLIC

We are coming more and more to the knowledge that parks and playgrounds belong to the public—the whole public. In fact, if there is any part of the public to whom parks are less important, it is the group of well-to-do citizens for whom early parks were made, because they were the only ones with facilities to use them. This was in the days before the advent of the automobile, particularly the low priced car, when only the wealthy or near wealthy had the equipages necessary to reach the parks and the time to spend in their enjoyment because, not infrequently the parks were closed evenings and Sundays. The old park had not only its good roads for the carriage or victoria and its paths for the saddle horses of the rich, but it had its very expensive formal flower beds and not infrequently more expensive marble and stone confections which were presumed to express the propriety and ideas of the community, but which did little to make life worth living for the tired worker who occasionally walked the restricted paths and was warned off the grass held sacred by signs, which now thank Heaven have generally disappeared.

The park of today even though it be only a small playground spells service to all the people in every sense of the word. It competes for leisure time through wholesome activities properly supervised.

It brings sunshine, blue sky, green grass, trees, streams, wild life, healthful exercise, and clean morality to the men, women, and children of the busy city street, the poor and rich alike.

FINANCING

The question that confronts us all is, "How shall we finance this public need?" Because of a few lingering traces of the old idea that parks were a luxury, too often they are required to take what is "left over" after all other projects are financed. This, too, is frequently but not so often true of playgrounds. The child appeal helps the playgrounds, especially the small community playground.

The financial needs divide into three main classes: (a) acquisition; (b) improvement or development and (c) maintenance.

Acquisition, frequently, is by gift, but more often by purchase and in some cases even purchase through condemnation. A gift may, but rarely does, include financial provision for improvement, and might possibly provide through endowment for maintenance. Practically always, however, improvement and maintenance must be provided for out of some form of public funds. Park authorities in receiving gifts should be careful to discern between the gift that will become a direct and substantial asset to the city and the gift of some property of questionable value that serves only to boost the sale of some real estate project or is perhaps some small corner "left over" in platting a property. This discrimination may, at times, be rather embarrassing but it can always be justified in the eyes of a discerning public if not in the mind of the ambitious real estate dealer or platter. Officials should be alert against the acceptance of properties as parks or playgrounds unless they are of value, are fair, and an asset to the city. Care must be exercised that no unfair or unreasonable restrictions are attached to the gift.

Methods of financing may be considered as follows:

From *Public Management*, March, 1928. Proceedings of the 14th Annual Convention of City Managers.

1. Appropriations in annual budget.
2. Bonds secured by special assessments.
3. Bonds secured by general taxation.
4. Combination of bonds secured by special assessment and bonds secured by general taxation.
5. Special tax for park and playgrounds projects only.
6. Installment payments out of the net receipts obtained from the operation of the project itself.

There may be others but there, I believe, are the methods in most common use. Acquisition as well as improvement and maintenance may be financed by any one or combination of two or more of these plans.

I shall discuss briefly the plan in the order named.

1. Appropriations in Annual Budget

In the minds of some, and the idea is growing, the only sound rule to follow is to buy nothing and make no improvements except on a "Pay-as-you-go" basis. The principle is unquestionably sound theoretically, but it is slow and cumbersome in practice. It is hampered by taxation limits and projects of any magnitude often become tiresome and almost odious before possibility of completion, because of the long drawn out process of operations made necessary by the pinnances available through annual expense budgets. Maintenance of parks may well be cared for through annual budget appropriations but, I believe, improvements and acquisition should be otherwise financed. Experience has shown that garbage collection, fire protection, police protection and what-not must find a place in the annual budget before we can find a place for park and playground appropriation. We are apt to lose sight of the fact that passive and active recreation are the greatest protecting factors we can have for our youth and our children.

2. Bonds Secured by Special Assessments

This method should be used only when special benefits accruing to a district are equal to or greater than the necessary assessments—never otherwise. These benefits cannot be abstract but must be evidenced by a tangible rise in real estate values, without question, due to the project, or some other condition of equal value. It is true that a general benefit attains to a city equipped with parks as against a city not so equipped but it is also true that a special benefit accrues to the district or community served by parks and play-

grounds as against those not so served. Parks and playgrounds are as much a factor of consideration by the prospective home owner as are schools, churches, stores, street cars, sewer and water, etc. They are desirable for the health and welfare of himself and his children. Frequently he is willing to pay sufficiently more for such a home as will justify an assessment of 100 percent of the cost of establishing the park or playground when spread over a reasonable district. This may be especially true in new districts where the parks become a determining factor in the future character of the community but it can also be true in a district needing a new esthetic stimulation, an uplifting from decline and decay to a higher level in the city's physical appearance. It is well to remember that parks and playgrounds developed under this method must be complete and finished as seldom will a district acquiesce in a second or third assessment for the same project even though the new or further improvement may be a valuable addition to the park or playground affected and a direct benefit to the community. The average community looks most favorably on a full completion of a project under one charge for costs. These should be short time bonds.

3. General Bond Issue

General bond issues may well be used when the project is of general interest and value to the entire city and where no special benefit derives to a particular community.

This applies to large park areas, trunk boulevards, bathing beaches, large athletic fields, etc. That is when these serve the entire city. Then, too, we must not lose sight of the fact that a group of projects may in combination affect the entire city, when considered as one general scheme, although they have as well some purely local benefits. These may rightfully be considered in a general bond issue if the local value of one largely offsets the local value of another in some other community.

4. Combination or Special Assessment and General Bond Issue

It may be possible in some cases to combine a special assessment district with a general bond issue when the project is of particular benefit to one district but is also of a distinct value to the city as a whole. This may be exemplified by a parkway or park drive which enhances the value of abutting property more than most distant property and yet is of benefit to the entire city be-

cause of its use as a pleasure drive. The district assessment may be pro-rated with a greater amount charged to abutting property, the more remote being taxed less or on a graduated scale.

The plan might also be applied in areas in which property values are so low that, while the establishment of a park may materially increase the values, yet the increase will not be equal to the cost of the park or playground because of other local conditions. Certain industries may have a depressing effect on a district, that cannot be entirely offset by any park or playground and yet those districts may be the ones that have the most need for these facilities. A portion, and a large portion of the cost in such cases may well be borne by the city as a whole whether it be by bond issue or by general tax.

5. Special Mill Tax for Park or Playground Purposes

This, of course, is a direct taxation plan but it has the advantage of being more or less positive because of its being outside the regular expense budget and not limited by it. Its definiteness permits of planning a series of projects over a number of years as the amount of fund to be available each year is known. Whereas, as stated before, the budgeting of park and playground matters in the annual expense budget is subject to the needs of many other government functions and the amount available annually is highly variable.

These five plans are the most closely connected because they are each eventually a tax.

I claim no originality for them and have but grouped and presented them very briefly. Each has its faults as well as its benefits. Some of them are extremely difficult of adoption, particularly perhaps, the special assessment plans.

What is more logical, however, than that a community should be assessed for a new playground, for a swimming pool or even for the playground equipment that specifically serves that community? This, of course, is presuming that the general physical condition of the property of the community will warrant it. I believe it is right, but when similar projects in other communities have been financed by the city as a whole, the community now to be served participating, it is extremely difficult to convert such a community to the belief that they are now receiving a special benefit for which they should pay and pay alone. Some of these plans are in use in our own city, Grand Rapids, but we have not yet used all those that

are most fair. We still hold very closely to the general expense budget with its consequent limitations.

6. Financing out of the Receipts Derived from the Project Itself

The sixth method varies from the others in that it is not a tax method but the purchase of some special privilege or right by the individual user. It may take the form of various concessions or privileges. Perhaps the one park or recreation activity that illustrates most clearly this idea is the municipal golf course. Golf, both on the public course and on the private course, has gained an impetus that is rapidly displacing the national pastime, baseball. People are no longer willing to get their recreation through watching the activities of others. The golfer plays golf because he has an actual participation in the game himself; because he derives physical benefit through moderate exercise. The opportunity for this exercise is open in golf to more than tennis or any other similar activities suitable for adults. The adult, the youth, male and female, are all golfers or potential golfers. Because this is a specialized form of recreation a fee should be charged. There is no reason why a municipal golf course should not be self-sustaining and can be made to pay for a reasonable original investment, and all this at a reasonable charge for the privilege.

PARK AND PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT

So much for financing. Just a thought that comes to my mind on development.

I do not pose as a landscape architect, but I believe I appreciate and enjoy the beauties of nature as fully as anyone. Park development can best follow natural tendencies as closely as possible. This is perhaps particularly true in larger parks, where the magnitude of nature can be shown. Smaller areas may permit of more formal and artificial plans. One must, however, avoid the hard stilted effect of hard straight lines. Soften your park development by bringing into it quiet, peaceful beauty of a natural plan. Make your group planting natural groups. Make your drives and paths follow natural courses. Put your artificial lakes and ponds where nature would place them. Put a formal bed of flowers in a formal setting, not in a wild shady sheltered nook that can be enchanted only by scattered wild flowers such as nature would choose. In short, work with nature to help her improve and not in an

attempt to change her plan. Don't make an old fashioned cemetery of your parks by filling them with statues and cannons. True, there is a place for some statuary in parks. Some statuary is beautiful; but place it where it is natural. If it appeals to the child, get it down with the child. If it is majestic, awe-inspiring, give it a commanding, majestic setting. There is, I believe, no more place for cannons and guns in parks in general than there would be a statue of Dempsey and Tunney stripped for action, ready to fight. I walk along a path, perhaps glimpse the distant spires of the city through the leafy enframement of over-hanging branches, watch a gray squirrel or a chipmunk scurry across the grass and path, catch the flash of a bright winged bird among the trees, and perhaps hear the sweet note of a song bird hidden in the thicket. Peace comes, then quietly rounding a corner, bang! face to face with and looking into the mouth of a grim implement of destruction. What could more effectively kill romance and destroy a quiet commune with nature?

True, in a museum park or catch-all park, there may be a place for cannons. In a memorial park or a military park hallowed by some struggle where men fought for ideals, there is full justification for every cannon they contain. Museums and memorial parks may be graced with cannon but the ordinary natural, peaceful, rest-giving park—never.

I have no intent to disparage memorials and commemorative statuary. Much of it is beautiful and it has its place, but that place is not scattered promiscuously throughout all parks.

Time will not permit the consideration of the many features of park development and maintenance and in conclusion I want with your permission to become a little personal and speak of one or two of the things we are doing in a recreational way in Grand Rapids. We are credited with having a playground within a half-mile of every home. This is practically true. We anticipate insofar as possible future needs by acquiring property in newly developing districts before real estate promotion makes prices prohibitive. Development of these may well wait until warranted by community growth. During the season just closing we had in operation eighteen supervised playgrounds reasonably equipped with safe apparatus. We conducted ten open-air swimming pools. Eight of these are concrete pools with dressing room attached. Four of our concrete pools are what we term "the double Pool," that

is, they are divided into two units, one for girls and one for boys. Grand Rapids has not made any expensive investment in any particular swimming pool, but has rather inclined to a moderate cost per pool and a greater distribution of numbers. More expensive installations could be had, but our effort had been to serve the public through clean, sanitary equipment at a reasonable cost. Practically all of our construction and development work is done on a day basis rather than by contract, and at an appreciable saving to our city.

Entertainment Programs in Los Angeles School Centers

The Department of Physical Education and Athletics of the Los Angeles Public Schools, of which C. L. Glenn is director, is conducting a recreational program involving 185 school playgrounds or civic centers. A few of the features of the program are intra-mural basketball leagues with a program of 25 leagues of 116 teams and 850 participants in one school alone; a track season with 35,000 elementary school boys participating and 25 girls' play days with thousands of girls taking part.

A particularly interesting activity, which has been initiated at thirteen of the centers, is a series of ten weekly programs of good music—both vocal and instrumental—drama and motion pictures. These programs are held on Saturday afternoons in the auditoriums of thirteen of the junior and senior high schools, under the auspices of the Parent Teacher Association, Tenth District, and in cooperation with L. P. Behyman, at an admission price of \$1.00 for the series or 10c for each performance. The artists engaged are those who are filling the city's theatres to capacity at regular theatre prices and are a direct contrast to the usual Saturday motion picture matinee of "Jesse James." It is the purpose of the Department to provide programs which will be of interest not only to children, but to their parents as well, thus retaining the family unit. The response has been most gratifying. Later it is planned to fill in with plays in which children will be able to participate.

Swimming Pools

REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Regulation 1. Definitions. The term "swimming pool" as used in this chapter shall mean any swimming pool other than one maintained by an individual for the use of his family or friends, and unless otherwise qualified shall be construed as including both "artificial" and "partly artificial" pools.

The term "partly artificial pool" shall mean a pool formed from a natural body of water which has either so limited a flow or such an inadequate natural circulation that the quality of water must be maintained by artificial means.

The term "artificial pool" shall mean either indoor or outdoor pools which are entirely of artificial construction.

The term "new pool" shall mean an artificial pool constructed after July 1, 1928.

Regulation 2. Permit and revocation. No corporation, association or person shall establish, construct or maintain any swimming pool in any municipality without a permit from the health officer thereof on a form prescribed by the state commissioner of health to be issued subject to such conditions as may be imposed by this code, or by the local board of health. Any such permit may be revoked for cause after a hearing either by the local health officer or by the state commissioner of health.

Regulation 3. Construction and maintenance. Every swimming pool shall be so designed and constructed and shall be so maintained and operated as to be clean and sanitary at all times.

Regulation 4. Circulation. In new artificial pools inlets for fresh or repurified water and outlets shall be so located and spaced as to secure a maximum dispersion of the inflowing water throughout the pool, and inlets, if at the shallow end, shall not be more than one foot below the water line.

Regulation 5. Dressing rooms. Dressing rooms shall be so constructed as to facilitate thorough cleaning.

Regulation 6. Toilets. Adequate and proper toilet facilities conveniently located for use immediately before entering the pool shall be provided for both sexes at all swimming pools.

Regulation 7. Shower baths. Adequate shower bath facilities shall be provided at all artificial pools.

Regulation 8. Sanitary quality of pool water.
(a) Bacteria count. Not more than 10 per cent. of samples covering any three months' period shall contain more than 500 bacterial colonies per c.c. when incubated for 24 hours at 37° C. on an agar or litmus lactose agar medium.

(b) Tests for B. coli group. Not more than two out of five 1 c.c. samples collected on the same day, or not more than three out of any ten consecutive 1 c.c. samples of the water collected at times when the pool is in use shall show a positive partially confirmed test for bacteria of the B. coli group.

(c) Chlorination. When treatment of the pool water is carried out by means of chlorine or its compounds in sufficient quantity to maintain whenever the pool is in use an excess of not less than 0.2 parts per million of available or free chlorine the requirements of regulations 8-a and 8-b may be disregarded.

(d) Analytical methods. All chemical and bacterial analyses provided for in this regulation shall be made in accordance with the procedures recommended in the Standard Methods of Water Analysis of the American Public Health Association.

(e) Cleanliness. Visible dirt on the bottom and visible scum or floating matters on the surface of the pool shall be removed within twenty-four hours. (Amended January 11, 1928.)

Regulation 9. Bathing load limits. (a) Where quality of water depends on dilution. The total number of bathers using a pool during any period of time shall not exceed 20 persons for each 1,000 gallons of clean water added to the pool during that period. The term "clean water" as used above may be interpreted to mean new clean water used to refill the pool, new clean water used to replace loss by splashing or during cleaning, water taken from the pool and returned after effective filtration and disinfection, or any combination of such waters.

(b) When the quality of water depends on intermittent disinfection. At any pool where the addition of disinfectant is not continuous during

*Issued by the New York State Department of Health, Albany, N. Y. Quoted by permission of the Director of the Division of Sanitation.

the bathing period the total number of persons permitted to use the pool between any two consecutive disinfections shall not exceed seven persons for each 1,000 gallons of water in the pool and each disinfection shall be sufficient to ensure that the bacterial quality of the water shall conform at all times to the limits stated in regulation 8.

Regulation 10. Operator or attendant and operating records. Each swimming pool shall be under the personal supervision of an operator who shall keep a daily record of the number of persons using the pool, the volume of the new water added, the time of cleaning the pool and the quantity of disinfectant used. At all pools where artificial circulation, filtration, or any chemical treatment is used, a full daily record must also be kept of the actual length of time pumps and filters are in operation, also when each filter is washed or cleaned, when and how much chemical is used or added, when the bottom and sides of pool are cleaned, and the results of all excess chlorine tests.

Regulation 11. Care of suits and towels. All bathing suits and towels shall be washed with soap and water, rinsed and thoroughly dried after each use.

Regulation 12. Attendant. Every swimming pool shall be under the supervision of a competent attendant who shall require a careful observance of sanitary regulations.

Regulation 13. Pre-pool shower. All persons using an artificial swimming pool shall be required to take a cleansing shower bath, in the nude, to use soap and to rinse off all soap suds before entering the pool.

Regulation 14. Pollution of pool prohibited. Urinating, expectorating or blowing the nose in any pool is prohibited.

Regulation 15. Communicable disease. No person having sore or inflamed eyes, mouth, nose or ear discharges, or any communicable disease shall use any pool.

Regulation 16. Spectators. Persons not dressed for bathing shall not be allowed on walks immediately adjacent to artificial pools, and bathers shall not be allowed in places provided for spectators.

Regulation 17. Posting regulations. Placards reciting regulations 13 to 16 inclusive shall be posted conspicuously at the pool or enclosure and in the dressing rooms and offices of all swimming pools.

Chicago to Have Another Recreation Building

Committees from more than fifty organizations from the Northwest side of Chicago, particularly in the vicinity of Humboldt Park, actively engaged in making preparations for the laying of the cornerstone for the recreation building and boat house to be erected in Humboldt Park by the West Chicago Park Commission. The new building, which will replace the old building and refectory in use for over thirty-eight years, will be equipped with a large assembly hall, two gymnasiums, one for men and one for women, showers and complete locker facilities, and several club rooms. One of the attractive features of the new building will be the place allotted to boats during the boating season on the lagoon. In the winter time this space will be used for skaters as a lounging and checking room.

An elaborate program of entertainment marked the laying of the cornerstone. This consisted of daylight fire works, bombs, airplane stunts, athletic exhibitions and concerts by bands from the West Parks and the Logan Square American Legion Post.

"In the final analysis business deals with human welfare and human happiness. Its function is to find ways of promoting human welfare and of adding to the opportunities for human happiness." Such is a part of the message from Edwin B. Parker, chairman of the board of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to the annual meeting of the Chamber in Washington recently.

"America is on trial before the world. How shall we use the leisure which the growth of mechanical power has provided? How shall we use the power which accumulated wealth has placed in our grasp? Does not the answer turn on the degree of intelligence and self-control developed and used by the nation or the individual, as the case may be? Will America meet this test and, instead of flaunting her prosperity, seriously and with her accustomed efficiency discharge her responsibilities, dedicating her prosperity to service, to the task of making the life of the peoples of the world fuller and freer and more abundant? Is not this America's place on the world's team?"

Enlarging the Service of Community Houses*

By ALBERT J. COOK,

Superintendent of Schools, Harbor Beach, Michigan

There are certain factors which must be given consideration as controlling success in community house projects. These factors are commonly present whether the project is represented physically by a completely equipped building valued from \$150,000 up or is merely an auditorium, a community gymnasium or a combination of auditorium and gymnasium. These same factors determine the advisability, or the possibility or impossibility, of maintaining a community service of the enlarged type.

IMPORTANCE OF A STUDY OF RESOURCES

Prior to the establishment of any community center where the expenditure of funds is necessary in securing either site, building, or equipment, it is the part of wisdom to make a survey of resources—both material and personal—available for the support of the project. Where schools are transformed for a portion of the day or night into community houses this is less necessary, it is true, because the basic equipment is not lost, if eventually the center fails to function as such, but where the failure of the project means considerable material loss, by all means, a survey of resources must be made. Enlarging an existing service successfully just as certainly depends upon knowing the controlling factors as does extending and maintaining a center in the beginning.

Among these factors which we shall place first in determining whether or not we may enlarge our service is that of *need*. It may very well be the case that a given community center is providing everything that a given area requires in the way of centralized social activities. It is, however, much more likely to be true that enlarged service is possible. The needs of a locality to be served from a certain center are most likely to be revealed by a careful survey and study of the conditions prevalent in that area from a social

point of view. The word social is here used in a broad sense. In this analysis of local needs we should determine the number of children to be benefitted by the proposed enlarged service, and likewise the number of adults.

In considering people with reference to their social and moral needs it is necessary to classify. We shall need to know what part of the juvenile population is at that age when boys and girls are most interested in each other. We shall need to ask ourselves the question, "What part of these children may be treated more or less collectively without reference to sex difference?" It will interest us to know how many of the children are very young. In considering the adult portion of the community we shall need to know what part of them are in their most active period of life professionally, in a business way, or socially. All of the adults must be considered from an occupational point of view. Obviously community service of a widely different type must be provided for the laboring man from that provided for the clerical worker. A man who has used his muscles all day in routine work may neither desire nor need to exercise more. He may wish to spend his evening in a public reading room, to attend a community dramatic performance, or to see a good picture. He may actually be in need of charity in the way of medical or surgical attention for himself or his family. A very different kind of service will be required by the other type mentioned. Once the survey of needs is completed the next step is to decide what specific thing or things shall be done to enlarge the service, in the light of revealed needs.

Before any final action is taken, however, it is necessary to know whether or not the need is clearly recognized as such by the community to be served. Granting that the need exists, the next question to be asked is, "Do the citizens of this community recognize the need to the extent that they will support the enlarged project in every

*Address given at the Recreation Congress, Memphis, Tennessee, October 3-8, 1927.

needed way." I use the word needed again because I wish to emphasize a kind of support that will go further than the bare necessities. No one ever got very fat on a starvation diet. No enlarged community house service is possible without cheerful support. If this question can not be answered *affirmatively* and *positively*, then the time for an enlarged community service has not yet arrived. It will first be necessary to educate the community to an active demand for the satisfaction of a want as yet not *clearly* and *imperatively* felt. *Needs are quite universal*, but along certain lines a *full realization of the fact is much less than universal*.

If a genuine need for an enlarged service and an active recognition of that need exists, it seems that the next inquiry should be as to the means of financing the proposed extension.

FINANCING THE EXTENDED SERVICE

Gifts are not infrequently made to community welfare organizations. It may be that charity will furnish the requisite funds for an enlarged service, but if gifts are to be used, subscriptions solicited, it must be borne in mind that ultimately, in the great majority of cases, it will be necessary to distribute the burden of later maintenance more or less equitably through the medium of taxation. Few charitably inclined persons will continue to shoulder the entire burden of maintaining a project which they originally gave, and it is always impossible to go back twice to the same individual with a subscription list. Like the stingy husband, he is certain to ask you what you did with the two bits that he gave you last week. This is distinctly as it should be. If an enlarged community service is worth while it is worth paying for by every member of the community. People are not beggared by buying worth while commodities, and self-respecting citizens are not asking others to pay their entire community service bill for them.

Regardless of whether or not it is right, all experience indicates that a given community will, in the course of time be obliged to assume its own burdens. If this is true, then it is essential that our preliminary survey should determine the amount of material resources which may be levied upon for financial support. If the burden becomes too heavy for the comfort of the average taxpayer, resentment at the imposition of such a load will entirely neutralize any good that may be attempted, and there will be no unified action

on the part of the citizens of the community. Enlarged community service makes no gains in an unfriendly atmosphere.

WHAT SHALL THE ENLARGED SERVICE BE?

May we consider now for a moment what the enlarged service shall be like? Having placed so much emphasis upon the necessity of adequate support it may be thought that without elaborate equipment and highly complete community plants no enlarged service is really possible. Such is not the case. The test of whether or not the service is truly of an enlarged type is found in answer to the question, "Does the service offered by my community house develop community unity?" "Does it mass the social resources of the community?" If the answer to the question is "yes," then you already have an "enlarged service." Keep it going, alive to community developments. Keep it growing, and you, of course, have the secret of enlarging. An enlarged service is quite as practical in the small community center as it is in one the most complete. Enlarging the service is the task of keeping *pace with developments* and a *pace or two in advance of the demand*.

I believe that an enlarged service will be distinctly educational in its aims, because such an objective will produce the greatest degree of happiness in the lives of its patrons. Some one has said that the best way to secure happiness is through storing up a great variety of interesting things to think about. The late Doctor Marion L. Burton, while president of the University of Michigan, once said, "Education is the result of having secured a large number of contacts with life." We shall be enlarging community house service when we provide our communities with happiness through the medium of interesting thoughts, and with true education through the establishment of living contacts. This can be done through the means afforded by the simplest auditorium or gymnasium almost as well as with the most elaborate equipment.

COMMUNITY UNIFICATION

Let us not forget that our objective is community unity; that the test of the enlarged service is the extent to which it brings about a centralization of community social resources. Educated people recognize the advantages of organization. Education is certain then to bring about a massing of the social resources of the community if the situation is properly directed.

What are some of the practical means at our disposal in this community unifying process? It is a well known fact that where men play together, for a time, at least, they forget the jealousies growing out of social rank, and the distinctions which follow a greater or lesser degree of success in business or profession. They forget the partisan feelings growing up between Catholic and Protestant in good fellowship which permits a reversion to boyhood when one never asks whether his chum be a Baptist, a Methodist or a Catholic, but only that he shall be intrinsically worthwhile. A practical experience over a period of five years convinces me that the goodfellowship of the volley ball floor or the indoor baseball game carries over into community relations to a marked degree.

Perhaps no feature of community house service can have a finer effect than that of library facilities. The time is not far distant, when in connection with every community house there will be an excellent library from which the best of current and standard fiction, and reference volumes will be available at no cost to the individual directly, and in which there will be maintained a pleasant reading room where the best in current periodical literature and news may be enjoyed. This is not beyond the reach of any community house, however small the equipment or inadequate the support.

ENTERTAINING THE COMMERCIAL RECREATION FIELD

It seems quite likely to many of us that the future enlarged service will enter the field of commercial amusement. Even now to some extent this is done in every community house that I have known, but I wish to propose a great enlargement in this field on the grounds of public safety and in behalf of good morals. Our commercialized theaters are for the most part showing every variety of the undesirable. I wish to propose for your consideration the actual taking over of the business of the local theater, and the running for community profit, at low prices, of a theater where only the best in amateur productions and movies shall be shown. The money gained will certainly be a welcome addition to the community organization resources, and the educational advantage of such a procedure is entirely obvious. I am aware that this may not be entirely practical in larger places, but I know from actual experi-

ence that it can be successfully accomplished in cities under 3,000 population.

THE HARBOR BEACH COMMUNITY HOUSE

In order that this short address shall take a final practical form, I wish in conclusion to tell you something of the Harbor Beach, Michigan, Community House Corporation. In 1917 a large store building located desirably at the intersection of our two main streets was given to the city of Harbor Beach by the Jenks family, who for many years have been engaged very successfully in the manufacture of starch and starch by-products. The building was remodeled, with funds secured by subscription, until it was suitable for community house use. The following facilities were provided: auditorium and theater; gymnasium; smaller committee and club rooms; public library, and a room for general use called the "Common Room." City offices and council rooms were also provided.

Financial support was assured through rentals: to the city, of offices, to the school of overflow school rooms, library and gymnasium, and through nominal charges for various things. Another source of income was the profits from the theater, which was run by a theater manager, who either gave his services or received small remuneration.

The management of this plant was at first through the services of well paid community directors, and under that plan was never the desired success. Directors served but a short time before they became unacceptable to the community for one or many reasons or sought better paid positions. Finally an attempt was made to dispense with paid directorship, and the management was placed in charge of an executive committee. This plan worked quite well for a year and a half, but at the expiration of that time the committee became disorganized. No direction was provided for a time and things rapidly became chaotic. Finally the board of directors, which under the terms of our corporate articles is always the local board of education, asked the superintendent of schools to formulate a plan for the management of the Community House Program, and to assume responsibility for scheduling. The plan which follows was submitted and adopted, and has now been in operation for about three years.

Two physical education directors, one a woman and the other a man, are employed on twelve months' contracts by the city schools. These people teach physical education classes in the

school, which uses the community house gymnasium, conduct activities for men and women and take direct charge of the summer playground and scouting program. The woman serves as house secretary and hostess. These people work under the supervision of the superintendent of schools. Our plan provides for a general physical education program for children of both the public and the parochial schools.

A good library of approximately four thousand volumes is provided. The library has modern equipment in every respect, and a pleasant reading room with tables and chairs suitable for both children and adults is provided. A splendid theater, under the management of a local theater manager is run for the profit of the project. The profits will aggregate this coming year over \$3,500. The gymnasium is used by both the school and the community. The city offices and council rooms open into the community house lobby. The entire plant is possibly worth \$150,000.

The project has been a fact during a period of ten years, either under construction or in actual operation. The original plant and equipment were destroyed by fire in 1926, but a new community building was at once planned and placed in service this last summer. It provides for the same activities as the old, but on an enlarged scale and with finer facilities in every respect. There was no difficulty in passing a bond issue of sufficient size to rebuild, in fact it received only seven adverse votes out of nearly 250 total.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. Kelly, Executive Secretary of the Community House of Salem, Ohio, told of the services the house was rendering on its budget of \$12,500. A kindergarten is maintained; facilities are provided for luncheons of business men's clubs; parties are held for industrial groups; and work for boys and girls is carried on under the leadership of full time directors.

The question was raised of charges in connection with the kindergarten activity of the Salem Community House. How is it possible to distinguish between those who are able to pay and those who are not? In this particular instance the Red Cross and social workers decided which should pay. "What ought to be provided if the program is to be enlarged and where should the start be made," was another question asked. One executive suggested it is important to find out what people want to do. In the development of

her own program she started a number of activities and continued those which proved most popular. Another executive stated that he uses a mailing card of suggested activities, asking the recipient to check those in which he is interested in taking part and to return the card. If there are twenty requests a class is started.

Rapid Progress in Irvington, New Jersey

It was last June that Irvington began its year-round program of recreation with Philip Le Boutillier as Superintendent of Recreation for the Department of Recreation. A training institute for recreation workers with an attendance of 125 volunteers ushered in the program. This was followed by the opening of four playgrounds, which had an attendance of 14,000. Among the activities have been a model boat contest, a hobby show, a pet and doll show, field day, a circus, the folk dance festival, community-wide Christmas caroling, an Armistice Day celebration, a municipal tennis league and tournament, bowling, basketball, chess and checkers leagues.

An Advisory Recreation Council has been organized with a membership made up of leaders in the Legion, Kiwanis Club, Elks Community Chest, Boy Scouts, Y. M. C. A., Recreation Commission and other groups. Another far reaching organization is the Industrial and Municipal Athletic Federation. Cooperation with the schools resulted in a request in February from the School Board to the Municipal Recreation Commission to take over all after school and evening play activities in school buildings and on school grounds. An appropriation of \$3,800 was made by the Board of Education to pay for light, heat and janitor service.

The budget for 1928 is more than double last year's. It includes \$14,600 for activities; \$2,000 for playgrounds and \$6,000 for park and tennis courts.

Five years ago the town purchased twenty-three acres of land for \$35,000. A conservative estimate of the present value of the property is \$100,000. Although the town could dispose of the property with a splendid profit, it has refused to consider a sale and has issued bonds to the amount of \$6,000 to improve the property for park and recreation purposes.

Recreation Budgets*

By

ARTHUR WILLIAMS

To many people budgets are considered a more or less necessary or even unnecessary evil. Budgets are, however, coming to be more and more extensively used. There are budgets of all kinds,—from the family budget, which seems to be increasing in its use, to the budget of the United States of America. Efficiency experts are using the word in their own work, talking constantly of "budgeting" time.

It is probably true that to most recreation executives and to executives in all lines of endeavor, budgets are things that just have to be made out and are an awful bore, if not a decided nuisance. They are considered some kind of hokus pokus required to get money for work, making it necessary for a person to take good time from running his program to please the powers-that-be.

However, budgets need not be complicated and need not be a nuisance, and they can have a very decided constructive value. One does not need to be a mathematical prodigy or even a certified public accountant to work out his own budget system and to follow it.

In view of the unpopularity of budgets as such, it may seem to show more courage than sense to recommend to recreation executives that they should have two budgets. They have to have at least one where the money comes from municipal tax funds. This budget is made out in accordance with forms prescribed by the city with even the smallest detailed items listed so that the executive has no freedom in determining the form of the budget for the division of his expenses. This budget should and must be made out. However, aside from using this budget for comparison with his monthly expenses as the year goes by so that he can be sure not to spend all of his money before the year is out, this budget has practically no value for the recreation executive. And too often he does not even make this use of it.

A budget is nothing more or less than a statement in dollars and cents of a certain program

on which money is expended, but to try and visualize a program from most budgets would be something that I doubt that even Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Sir Oliver Lodge could do with all of their insight into the mysterious Unknown.

The second budget recommended might be called a functional budget, as it calls for a forecast of income and expenditures by types of service rendered, or in other words by the different functions performed.

Every recreation executive for his own sake should know what he is planning to do during the year and how much he is planning to pay for it, and the functional budget is the best way to determine these things. An executive without a definite program cannot make out an adequate budget; an executive with a good program can easily make out a helpful budget and can do it himself without hiring a corps of accountants. All he needs to do is to retire to the privacy of his own office for a few hours, list the different activities in his program, list the people on his payroll including himself, estimate the amount of time which each of these persons on his payroll is going to give to these activities, or merely what proportion of his own time is to be spent as each type of service if he is the only one on the payroll, charge the proper percentages of these salaries to the activities, and he will have immediately an estimate of the personal service cost for each activity. Many of the other expenses are even more easily charged against each activity. Perhaps the most difficult items to charge are general administration items such as executive's automobile, office rent. Usually such overhead items can be charged off on the basis of the percentage of the executive's time that is given to supervising each different activity.

Or perhaps a simpler way would be to charge general administration expenses separately and then at the end of each month or at the end of the year write them off on a fair proportionate basis.

A copy of this budget when completed, with the percentages used in making the distribution,

*Address given at Recreation Congress, Memphis, Tenn., October, 1927.

Prior to the meeting on Recreation Budgets at the Memphis Recreation Congress, a number of cities submitted their budgets for comment.

can be given to the department bookkeeper, or office clerk, and a memorandum set of records, not a part of the official accounts, can be maintained, so that the expenditures of the year can be apportioned on the same basis. If a worker is charged to different departments on one basis and that basis is changed during the year, a new time distribution can be given to the bookkeeper or clerk, and the new time distribution followed until further notice, and the final distribution of expenditures during the year will be reasonably accurate. Having such a distribution of expense, if an executive has a reasonably accurate record of the participation in the different activities, a simple matter in division would determine the per capita cost per activity and he could draw off a great many other effective cost figures for use in interpreting the budget in dollars and cents to city managers, finance committees, and to his own board.

Of the budgets submitted for examination and comment at this meeting, very few are functional to any degree and none are completely functional in nature. It is significant, however, that one of the budgets which most nearly approaches the outline mentioned above is from a city in Florida which, in spite of the depression in that state, and in spite of the general difficulty of the Florida recreation executives even to maintain their work without substantial cuts, secured an increase in the budget almost doubling it, so that now this city, in time of depression, has a budget of practically \$1.00 per capita for its recreational work. It is in my judgment, not too far fetched to claim that the clear interpretation of what the money was to be used for helped considerably in getting the larger appropriation through.

Time does not permit a detailed review of all of the budgets submitted. However, it is worth while to take time to cover briefly the budget for one other city, and the most nearly perfect functional budget—from City A, which submitted material typical of most of the material sent in. In commenting on the second budget, and, in fact, in commenting on all of the budgets, emphasis is laid not so much on what is wrong in what is submitted but on what has been left out. It is safe to say that budget weaknesses are almost entirely due to errors of omission rather than to errors of commission.

The City A budget covers an expenditure of \$765,000. The copy submitted is in full detail and covers 61 pages of material. This detail, how-

ever, is very admirably summed up in the earlier pages. As was the case of most budgets sent in, estimated revenues are given with their different sources, estimated expenditures and also expenditures for the year or two previous so that increases and reductions are apparent.

The estimated expenditures are grouped under the following headings: playgrounds, industrial recreation, municipal sports, music, extension service, summer camps, all year-round camps, municipal clubs, swimming pools, beaches, capital expenditures and general expenditures.

It is evident that these divisions are purely functional with the exception of the last two items and in my opinion the one weakness of the budget is in not making a distribution either in the official budget or in a second working budget of these two groups of expenditures, among the other items which cover the different activities carried on. These two items alone total \$250,000, which is practically one-third of the budget so that only two-thirds of the budget has been really distributed along functional lines.

A distribution of the capital expenditures should be relatively easy. They cover the amount which it is planned to spend in improvements to land, erection of new buildings, the purchase of new equipment and the acquisition and equipping of new grounds. In view of the full supporting detail accompanying this budget it would seem to be clear that the executive and the commission in City A know definitely where they are going to spend this money listed under capital expenditures and could readily distribute it under the proper functional headings.

The general administration expenses could be distributed on a percentage basis to the different activities based on a careful and honest estimate of the proportion of the time of the executive and his force given to the supervision of these different activities.

The recreation work in City B is under the Board of Park Commissioners and the budget information submitted was sent in by the Secretary of the Board of Park Commissioners. The information sent in included not only the budget allowance for recreation included in the total park budget approved by the city, but also the budget statements prepared by the Park Board for its own use in controlling the recreation expenditures.

The details of the budget submitted follow arbitrary divisions set down by the financial de-

partments of the city. Where money for community recreation work comes from tax funds the official budget in practically every case follows the divisions of other departments of the city as they must necessarily do in order to be a consistent unit in the whole city accounting system. The main divisions of the budget are as follows: Personal Service, Contractual Service, Supplies, Fixed Charges and Contributions, Temporary Expenditures (expenditures for saleable articles), Repairs and Replacements, Outlay, and Automotive Equipment.

The material sent in gives not only the proposed 1927 budget, but the expenditures for 1924 and 1925 and the approved budget for 1926.

An additional statement divides the total budget of \$78,300 into direct expenditures for each of the different park department areas entirely used for organized recreation and entirely under the management of the Recreation Department, with one item lumping the expenditures of general recreation activities, of overhead and of direct expenditures, the recreation areas and park areas, presumably the larger park areas, not fully under control of the Recreation Department but under the direct control of the Park Department proper.

A third statement shows the system for controlling expenditures, which gives the budget, the monthly estimate of expenditures to the date of the statement, the actual expenditures and encumbrances, with the balance of the full budget left for the remainder of the year. In this way good check is provided against over-expending the budget in the earlier months of the year.

The material submitted is good insofar as it shows the direct expenditures of the Park Board for recreation as expended through its Recreation Department, and also shows a good check on expenditures.

The material submitted does not indicate whether or not any service of the Park Department proper to the Recreation Department is charged against the Recreation Department such as the labor and upkeep and other costs of maintaining park areas directly under the management of the Park Department proper, portions of which are used by the Recreation Department. For example, if several playgrounds, athletic fields, or other recreational areas are included in a larger park area, the activities being under control of the Recreation Department but the grounds proper under the control and maintained by the Park Department, it is not possible to determine

whether the recreation budget is charged with any expense of the Park Department proper in maintaining these playgrounds, athletic fields, etc. In order to find a true estimate of the cost of the recreation service which the Board of Park Commissioners is rendering the people of City B, it might be necessary to know not only the explicit recreation budget of the Park Department but the contributions of labor, etc., which might appear as Park Department proper expenditures, whereas they might be fairly charged to the Recreation Department Service.

The budget material submitted is not in any sense functional. The Recreation Department maintains playgrounds, bathing beaches, and other facilities and also conducts special activities such as industrial leagues, dramatic activities on the playgrounds, etc. From the Recreation Department budget it is absolutely impossible to know how much the industrial recreation program of the Park Department is costing; it is impossible to know what the playgrounds are really costing, and how much the special activities provided are costing. The total amount expended in City B for the service rendered is undoubtedly reasonable. However, within the program itself, special activities, which might be worth all they are now costing, might be nevertheless conducted at a lesser expense or costs might be so low as to make it easier to secure additional funds for the extension of particular activities. Does the Recreation Department really know what the different branches of its own service are costing? The city proper knows what its police department costs, its fire department, and its park department. In the same way the Park Commission probably knows in general what its main divisions are costing. Does the Recreation Department in the same way know what the divisions of its own service are costing? Possibly it may, but the budget material submitted does not show it.

In the case of City B, as is the case in practically every city whose budgets have been submitted and studied, its main weakness is in not having budgets or accounting systems which show the cost on a functional basis. They are entirely on a straight administrative basis. This administrative basis is essential and is in fact compulsory, because the plans followed in every case are laid down by the city auditor or comptroller and must be followed. However, there is no legal objection to a recreation department or any other department of the city keeping a second set of

budget figures as previously described for its own use to determine functional costs and unit costs, such as the cost per child for playground service, the cost per golf game, the cost per swim. It is my own personal opinion that it is somewhat of a moral obligation for a department to keep that cost, and a decided educational advantage to do so.

For example, recreation departments are commonly making a charge for certain facilities under certain conditions and for certain classes. Ought not the real cost be known and used as a basis for determining such charges so long as the recreation departments give publicity to the fact that these facilities are self-supporting, are profit making, or are practically self-supporting. I believe I can safely say that in most cases such statements are not accurate inasmuch as so many cost figures are so incomplete. They more often than not include only the direct cost more easily seen and determined.

In times of municipal economy, and recently every year seems to be an economy year in most cities, is it not a decided advantage to be able to interpret the budget in terms of service rendered as to quantity, quality, and type, so that in making any eliminations in the recreation budget, it can be clearly pointed out what recreation service to the community is being abolished or curtailed where perhaps it should not be? The use of the facts and figures with the recreation commission itself has a real value in educating its membership and supplying them with the necessary ammunition to protect the budget at council hearings or in personal discussions with the City Manager or Mayor or other politically important individuals.

Are not accurate unit costs also a protection and a help when special studies are made of cities by municipal research experts, city planners, and others? A concrete example of this is as follows:

A city planner of national reputation submitted a city plan to the City Planning Commission of a middle-western city including a section on Recreation. In this section he made special reference to playgrounds, listing more than thirty cities about the size of the city he was studying, giving the number of playgrounds for each, the average daily attendance for each city, and the salaries for each city. From this table he very blandly commented on the fact that some of the cities with the larger salary expenditures had

smaller attendance figures, and pointed out that in certain of the more liberal cities unimpressive results are shown. These figures I checked up and apparently they were taken from the 1923 Year Book of the Playground and Recreation Association of America. What this gentleman has done has been to take the average daily attendance figures reported for the playgrounds alone and the salary figures reported as the total expenditure for salaries whether or not some of these salaries were used for community centers in the winter time or for the organization of industrial athletics, and in some cases for running golf courses, swimming pools, bathing beaches and other facilities.

In the first place attendance figures are questionable because executives keep attendance records in different ways in spite of the fact that executives at the Springfield Recreation Congress themselves worked out a method for taking attendance. These attendance figures are not really comparable. As for comparing these attendance figures with the salaries—it is ridiculous. One city is pointed out as spending about \$20,000 on salaries for its playgrounds with 11,000 average daily attendance. Another city is reported as spending \$105,000 with a 1,500 daily attendance on 46 playgrounds. The comments made in this table would indicate that the second city was decidedly inefficient and wasting money, while the first city has a finely organized system. A careful study of these two cities would undoubtedly show that in the second city the tax payers are really getting more for their money than in the first city. Some executives are more expansive in their attendance estimates than others. Some keep definite records.

However inadvisable such tables as this may be, these comparisons are going to be made. As these comparative statements of cost of different kinds of municipal service in different cities are going to be more and more common it is absolutely essential that the city cost figures be kept in such a way as to tell the real story so that any general conclusions drawn from them will have some value and not be out and out misleading as the deductions drawn from this table are.

A possible situation might be this: City A is apparently spending a certain amount of money. City B is apparently spending less for apparently the same amount of service. The figures in City B are used to bring pressure on City A to reduce its expenditures, and ultimately City A might

reduce its expenditures, so that they drop below those for City B. Then the City A figures can be used to drop the figures of City B, so that through the use of inaccurate figures and efforts for economy one city may be played against another city with a tendency to restrict recreation appropriations rather than to provide them with the steady adequate increase which they should have as the local recreation problems and services increase. Then, too, the city which is more honest in its cost figures is the one to be penalized, and the city which uses only its direct expenditures without considering other costs just as true as the direct expenditures, will hurt the work in other cities. Ultimately appropriations would be levelled downward not upward. In an effective system, the executive need not be afraid to make real costs available.

Question may be raised how to determine direct costs. There are certain items that are obvious. First, the direct cost as shown in the official budget books. Secondly, the interest on any outstanding bonds or money used to purchase areas and buildings. Third, the amount of money set aside each year in sinking funds to redeem such bonds. Fourth, contributions in labor, which are sometimes provided for by other departments but if not so contributed would have to be paid for by the Recreation Department. Laborers, teams, materials are often times contributed by park departments and are a direct charge to recreation work, but they do not always show in the city records as a charge against recreation. School departments give janitor service, light and heat in connection with community centers and often times this is not always included in the budget or shown as a cost against recreation. Some executives have to pay these costs and others do not.

Another real danger in not knowing of these costs is shown by a situation which arose in a large city some years ago. The School Board had been directly conducting evening recreation centers in the schools. An outside group evolved the theory that such centers could be run on a self-supporting basis and that the school budget could be relieved of their cost. This, of course, sounded very well to the authorities in charge, and this group was permitted to operate evening recreation centers in a number of school buildings in the city. As the executive of this group who took direct charge of this work in the centers was a genius in securing publicity and a genius in presentation of facts, especially cost facts, these cen-

ters were well advertised as being self-supporting soon after they were in operation; much literature was distributed about them, and as a result the Board of Estimate reduced appropriations and curtailed the program.

Rowland Haynes, then a field secretary of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, made a careful study of these "self-supporting" recreation centers and found that in determining whether or not they were self-supporting no allowance was made in the cost figures for the cost to the Board of Education for light, for heat, for janitor service, or for the salary of the director of the center. After these figures were deducted some of the centers met the remaining cost and others part of the remaining costs. This was done through holding dances and moving picture shows and other activities where large groups could get together but where the type of program was materially changed, revenue producing activities being given preference over activities more desirable from the recreational and educational point of view.

This example of juggling of cost figures is given not to claim that it is not proper and practicable for outside neighborhood groups to run their own centers under certain restrictions and supervision, but to point out that the cost of such methods and the cost of other methods should be honestly known and used when comparative statements are made. The whole community center movement in this particular city was seriously hurt by these false claims. Mr. Haynes found that some centers which were still operated directly by the Board of Education were actually costing the School Board and the tax payer less than some of the so-called "self-supporting" centers administered by this other group.

In conclusion it may be well to summarize the points to be considered in budget practice and to stress the different values arising from proper budget procedure. The main points in recreation budget procedure are about as follows: the preparation of budget figures in accordance with city requirements; the establishment of some check on expenditures so that the budget will not be over-expended; the preparation of a functional budget showing the cost of different activities in which all expenses, including general, are properly distributed; the inclusion in cost statements and estimates of all costs such as contributed services, interest on indebtedness, the determination of service unit costs, which will require not only ade-

quate and accurate budget and cost figures but also adequate participation figures.

As to value, the recreation board committee or commission is the first group which the executive has to educate completely and to convince as to the value of maintaining his full program and of increasing it, and as to the absolute necessity of raising the full amount requested in the budget.

The value of detail cost estimates and functional budget figures cannot be overestimated in building solid support of one's board, especially when such figures are carefully gone over with the board and fully understood by them. Board members are largely business men and business-like statements as accurate and complete as those they receive in their own business offices cannot fail to make a favorable impression.

The next individual or group to be convinced by the executive is the City Manager, Mayor, City Council or committee of the City Council or whatever individual or group has the final say on his appropriation. This group can be convinced much more readily when one's board is thoroughly familiar with the budget and what it provides and is thoroughly convinced that the full amount must be made available and, therefore, willing to stand solidly behind the executive in his requests. A judicious and interesting use of cost figures can be of inestimable value in building public support for the community recreation program.

Finally, administrative effectiveness is absolutely dependent upon accurate cost figures prepared on a functional and unit cost basis. Whoever spends money has to guard against waste and in guarding against waste one has to know more than his total outgo. A careful check on details is the only way in which waste can be kept at a minimum.

The Boys' Band of the Detroit Recreation Department

Growing out of the need for a band at the playground circuses conducted during the summer months, the Boys' Band, organized in the summer of 1927 by the Detroit Recreation Department, has progressed steadily, having a membership of over fifty. The boys, ranging in age from eleven to twenty are recruited from the various playgrounds and community centers throughout the city. John G. Gogolyak, director, and John J. Considine, Supervisor of Men's and Boys' Activities, have been untiring in their efforts to make the band the success it has proved to be.

Through the aid of C. E. Brewer, Recreation Commissioner, the Common Council was convinced of the desirability of such an organization and appropriated \$1,500 for the purchase of band uniforms. These were received in time for the annual Christmas Tree Celebration in front of City Hall. Since that time the band has played at numerous community programs, were guests at two "Father and Son" banquets, and helped to make contestants forget the chill, cold blasts of Father North at the Annual Winter Sports Carnival.

The objective is to have a sixty piece band which will be real inspiration for the participants to go further in their musical studies, and which will also be a pleasure to those who constitute the audience.

Shall we make use of leisure hours for recreating our spent powers or for further unraveling our frayed nerves?

If the next generation will be doing its work in an average six hour day, will it be wiser and better than we are, or will it be undoing its work in exotic and erotic pastimes?

Guidance for our avocations has become almost more important than vocational training.

Plumbers make more money than professors, but a period spent in a cultural college does add to the wealth of life.

It is futile to try putting the brakes on the inventive process. We shall go on traveling even faster.

But we must also learn how to turn away at times from the rush and to follow Him who leadeth us beside the still waters and restoreth our souls.

RALPH W. SOCKMAN, D. D.

PERSONNEL		So. Parks	West Parks	Lin. Park	Bd. Edu.	City Play.	No. West.	W. Pul.	Cal. Park	Irv. Pk.	River Park	Rav. Man.	Ridge Park	Fernwood	No. Shore	Port. Park	Edi. Park	Private	TOTAL
Park Managers		0	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	12
Playgr'd Directors M	20	13	6	65	28	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	133
Playgr'd Directors W	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Phys. Instructors.. M	18	15	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42
Phys. Instructors.. W	18	18	14	65	22	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	138
Sp. Supervisor ... M	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Sp. Supervisor ... W	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Play Leaders M	22	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
Play Leaders W	24	17	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54
Attendants M	205	136	96	65	68	16	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	0	599
Attendants W	100	44	16	0	40	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	208
Pool } Directors	5	8	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	28
Beach }																			
Life Guards	85	37	38	0	96	0	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	271
Music Instructors. M	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Music Instructors. W	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Pianists	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10

SALARIES		So. Parks	West Parks	Lin. Park	Bd. Edu.	City Play.	No. West.	W. Pul.	Cal. Park	Irv. Pk.	River Park	Rav. Man.	Ridge Park	Fernwood	No. Shore	Port. Park	Edi. Park	Private	TOTAL
Play Directors.... M	190	175	150	150	160	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150
Play Directors.... W	250	250	210	220	185	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250
Phys. Instructors. M	165	120	115	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125
Phys. Instructors.. W	185	185	165	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200
Special Super.	165	120	115	150	115	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	115
Managers	185	185	165	220	135	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	185
Managers	165	120	0	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	115
Managers	185	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	220
Managers	0	125	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	215	175	0	0	0	0	0	0	120
Managers	175	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250
Play Leaders.... M	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125
Play Leaders.... W	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	215
Play Leaders.... W	100	120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Attendants	110	185	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	110
Attendants	120	100	100	135	135	125	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	185
Beach Directors	130	135	115	0	160	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Life Guards	150	125	135	0	185	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	135
Life Guards	175	150	150	0	185	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125
Music Instructors	100	100	110	0	125	0	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	185
Pianists	110	125	0	0	145	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Pianists	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145
Pianists	0	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120
Pianists	0	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125
Pianists	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60

Approximate Annual Appropriations

	So. Parks	West Parks	Lin. Park	Bd. Edu.	City Play.	No. West.	W. Pul.	Cal. Park	Irv. Pk.	River Park	Rav. Man.	Ridge Park	Fernwood	No. Shore	Port. Park	Edi. Park	Private	TOTAL
Playgrounds	700,000	320,000	379,000	600,000	250,000	100,000	16,000	10,000	0	2,000	0	0	0	0	7,000	0	0	\$2,384,000
Beaches	92,000	0	55,000	0	340,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	487,000
Parks	3,000,000	1,600,000	1,000,000	0	360,000	0	0	0	0	28,000	7,000	0	0	10,000	150,000	0	0	6,155,000
Total	\$3,792,000	1,920,000	1,434,000	600,000	950,000	100,000	16,000	10,000	0	30,000	7,000	0	0	10,000	157,000	0	0	\$9,026,000

30 Playgrounds over \$35,000 Maintenance
 119 " " 10,000 "
 28 " " 6,000 "

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NOT COUNTING COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES

Recreation Congress and Model Aircraft Tournament
 Atlantic City, Oct. 1-6

Children in the Forest of Arden

By

MABEL FOOTE HOBBS

"If a hart do lack a hind,
Let him seek out Rosalind."

The lines spoken by Touchstone probably had more significance than they have ever had in all the many productions of *As You Like It* since the comedy first charmed an Elizabethan audience more than three hundred years ago. The fifth grade of Friends' Seminary, New York City, was making drama history with its production last May, for it was one of the first Shakespearean plays to be given complete by a cast of children of ten years and younger.

Of course, there were many who thought it folly when the undertaking was first announced, but the performance, with all its little imperfections, showed that children are not only capable of giving the comedies but that they enjoy them. From a strictly educational standpoint, the by-products were more interesting than the play itself and certainly they justified its presentation. It taught grace, it taught history and in one particularly interesting incident, it taught arithmetic.

When we remember that young boys produced Iphigenia and Scipio at the royal courts in the fifteenth century, it is not so amazing that children of ten enjoy Shakespeare in this age. Perhaps it is more remarkable that, by so doing, they put to shame the high school drama clubs who yearn after Broadway productions and take their Shakespeare via Lamb's Tales.

The play was not given to the children; they literally found it among the stories read to them by the teacher. They asked to give it, learned the lines and built the characters purely for their own pleasure. For four months they worked at learning lines and rehearsing and when it was finally over and the doublets and jerkins and lovely court costumes were laid aside, the little people parted with regret from the charming people of the Forest of Arden. Yet, in a sense, they did not part with them. Again and again they quote the wise and witty lines and it is safe to say that, when they have gradually forgotten the lines themselves, they will never lose the spirit of fine spun humor that made the play so precious to them.



ROSALIND FINDS ORLANDO'S VERSES
(Costumes designed and executed by Aurelie Asten)

Shortly after the play was given, Touchstone was taken to Central Park for the afternoon and, coming upon a statue of Shakespeare, he was as pleased and excited as if the jolly little cub he had just seen at the zoo had offered to come out and play with him. Thus it was with all the children: a spontaneous joy, unclouded by dull lectures or, worse, an attempt to teach the children to "act." It was entirely a natural expression and as lovely in effect as the natural dance. It was not that they had so much to give to the play, but that the play had so much to give them. As one wise mother, when congratulated on the talent her son had shown replied, "But it was not the child; it was the play. All the rare, rich comedy was given to him, you know, and he has just enough love of fun to pick up the quick wit of the play." The entire cast rollicked with the light humor for all the world as if a little of the spirit of Shakespeare's lovely creatures had possessed them.

While they learned a graciousness of manner that the quick tempo of modern life has almost banished, they also learned something of the life and customs of the Renaissance. So familiar were they with the period that when someone suggested using a coffee pot in the forest scene there was an immediate protest from the cast.

That Shakespeare might teach charm of man-

ner and Elizabethan customs can be easily understood, but that he should teach arithmetic would probably astonish the bard more than any of the arguments, ciphers and interpretations that have been wrung from his plays. There was a boy in the cast who found it difficult to concentrate and arithmetic had long been his bogey. He wanted very much to play a particular role and spent a good deal of time learning his lines and getting a good characterization. While he was at work on the play he began to show marked improvement in arithmetic. He no longer forgot to bring his book home and he stopped manufacturing excuses for not preparing his lessons. Concentration seemed to have come to him through his work in the play and, once taught, he was able to apply it to his lessons.

Adults who saw the play and marvelled at it kept reiterating, "But nothing like this was ever done when I was a child. I don't think we could have done it." But children have changed with the changing world and if the boys and girls of our childhood were invited to spend an afternoon with these children what a strange affair it would be! The child who played Touchstone with such talent had never heard of little Lord Fauntleroy and frankly dislikes the stories that were beloved of children a generation ago. His point of view is thoroughly modern but, like all children, when given an opportunity he is quick to sense beauty and to sift the fine story from the merely mediocre.

When ten year old children select *As You Like It* from all the stories read them, it seems rather



TOUCHSTONE: IF A HART DO LACK A HIND, LET HIM SEEK OUT ROSALIND

contradictory that Shakespeare should be so generally considered a bore in high school. It is difficult to imagine these children ever failing to find the plays a pleasure and one could not see this production without wishing that other children might have the same opportunity of having the fun of Shakespeare combined with a splendid basis of art appreciation.

Newspaper Comments on a Pageant

The *Inquirer-Sun* of Columbus, Georgia, in a recent issue, commented editorially on the historical pageant directed by Elizabeth H. Hanley of the P. R. A. A., which was a part of the celebration of Columbus Centennial Week. The spirit of the pageant was so delightfully expressed by the writer that we are passing it on.

"In reviewing the picturesque and spectacular activities of Columbus Centennial Week, it seems to us the event which was most significant and most closely related to the vital core of the celebration itself, was the pageant. In expressing this opinion we do not mean to slight any of the other interesting or beautiful incidents of our anniversary festivities—all were of the utmost value and we cannot visualize a fitting anniversary without any one of them. But the pageant was the mirror, so to speak, in which the epochal happenings of our city's history were reflected, and those who took part in it, either as performers or directors, achieved something that had not only an aesthetic but an historic value.



ROSALIND: Then there is no true lover in the forest; else sighing every minute and groaning hour would detect the lazy foot of Time as well as a clock. (rehearsal scene)

"In watching the episodes unroll themselves on the opening night, under the dusky, starlit sky and upon the vivid green carpet of turf, the skillfully manipulated lights of delicate colors bathing the tableaux in poetic atmosphere, and the strains of appropriate music affording the proper shading or emphasis—as we watched, intently and even excitedly, we experienced more of the thrill which ought to be associated with history than ever before in our experience. We felt ourselves a part of the past in a real and vivid sense.

"Surely this should be the effect of pageantry and doubtless hundreds of those present experienced a similar emotion. And through this mental reaction the salient facts of our city's history and of the history of Georgia became impressed upon the memory in ineffaceable fashion. For this reason our love for the city which exists today because of the devotion, courage and enterprise of its founders should from now on be more than ever informed with true patriotism.

"As for the children and young people who made the picturesque episodes glow and quiver with the energy and grace of youth, can they ever forget the occasion or fail to respond with love and intelligence to the needs of their city? We feel convinced that their part in the pageant, the emotional stimulus which it gave them, the quickened sense of beauty, which it must have created in them—have all had a more beneficial effect upon them than months of study out of books alone.

"Columbus owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Elizabeth Hines Hanley, to her loyal assistants, to the participants, to the instructors, to those who worked faithfully on the exquisite costumes and to the musicians for the charming and inspiring effect of the whole spectacle. For our own part, we shall never forget the sensations of Wednesday evening; the feeling of reality; the magical color effects, bathed in the dusky evening atmosphere and set off by the vivid turf; the delightful dancing and harmonious grouping; the spontaneous happiness of the children; the poetry of the old songs and the old contra-dances; the delightful humor of the auction scene, with its covered wagon, shepherd dog and 'darn good cow'! Not to mention the savage Indians!

"As a newspaper whose existence began with that of the city and which has had its part in all the stirring episodes made so real to us on Wednesday and Thursday nights, we wish to express our gratitude and delight for the worth and beauty

of the spectacle, to every individual who took part in its planning or performance. May we have many more pageants, not necessarily on anniversaries, but for the pure beauty and joy of it!"

We learn unofficially that the editorial was written by Julian Harris, son of "Uncle Remus."

The Radio and the Recreation Program

Increasingly the radio is being used by recreation departments to broadcast musical and entertainment programs, and to reach as many people as possible with information about the work of the department.

Among instances which have recently been brought to the attention of the Association are the following:

In Los Angeles, harmonica lessons are being given over the radio under the auspices of the Playground and Recreation Department. These lessons, given each Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 7:00, are arranged so that the beginner may learn to play in his home. Music stories, illustrated by musical compositions, are told over the radio each Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 6:30. These stories are developed along lines which will help create musical appreciation in children and adults. Each Saturday a playground department radio program is given from 4:30 to 5:00.

The Houston, Texas, Recreation Department recently sent out a postal announcing that the Department's band and Mexican Glee Club would broadcast at a certain time. "Some very special numbers," states the notice, "are being worked up for this program and it is our hope that you will tune in. Let us know of your reception either by wire to station, by telephone or by letter to the Recreation Department."

During the winter months, the Playground Association of Wyoming Valley, Pa., broadcast stories for children three evenings a week. Approximately 12,000 children listened to the stories each night. What is known as the "Playground Association Drama Hour" was another feature of the broadcasting of the Association. One night each week a one-act play was broadcast over WBRC. This proved to be a most successful experiment.

Nature Guiding

DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED BY WILLIAM G. VINAL

NOTE: Since many recreation directors are organizing nature courses and camps for the training of nature guides, and since many students are seeking courses for such training, it is thought worth while to publish a resumé of the experiment of Slippery Rock Normal under the direction of Dr. R. A. Waldron.

THE NATURE EDITOR.



CANOE LANDING AND SWIMMING PIER
Slippery Rock State Normal School

“Camp Canawasco” of Slippery Rock State Normal School

A HEALTH EDUCATION AND NATURE STUDY
CAMP

A Unique Successful Experiment in Education—
CA from the word Camp, NA from Nature,
WA from Water and SCO from Scouting as-
sembled produces the name CANAWASCO—

A Student Idea.

In the summer of 1925 on the banks of Slippery Rock Creek, three miles south of Slippery Rock and twelve miles north of Butler, Pa., just off Route 8 of the Pittsburgh to Erie highway,

twenty-two students and three faculty members assembled and spent six weeks in a camp in the open.

The site is located at a place where there is abundant opportunity for outdoor sports and nature work of all kinds. The creek at this point is a quiet clear stream for about three and a half miles.

The success of this first summer's work was such as to create a demand for another camp in 1926. At the close of the 1927 camp, which had an enrollment of nearly three times that of 1925, the attainment was of such high order that it was made a permanent feature of the college.

The aims:

To have a well trained group of teachers impart the glories of great out-of-doors sports and of nature to young people preparing to become teachers



THE STRAIGHTAWAY FROM PIER

To show life first hand; and, therefore develop a keen appreciation of and a zest for nature, and to give a clear understanding of the kinds of living things in the world in the form of plants and animals

To teach the names and homes of those animals associated with man on this old world of ours

To bring the students face to face with life forces and problems to show that man is a unit and part of a great universe



BREAKING CAMP AFTER AN OVERNIGHT HIKE
Slippery Rock State Normal School

To train in scouting, camp craft, camp organization and administration, mass games and water sports

To give prospective teachers the special training they need in order that they may be experts,—special nature study teachers in platoon systems or nature supervisors in any community

To broaden those who have a physical education interest that they may correlate with sports an understanding of wild life,—and finally,—

To produce for the camps of America's boys and girls camp directors, teachers and councillors. Advantages:

Few superior locations are to be found. The water is clear and deep in either direction from the camp for a mile and a half. A straight-away at the site of over a half-mile allows full development of canoeing and swimming. Deep woods and open fields are ideal for the work of scouting, camping and athletics. The woods, fields, swamps and streams offer an abundant variety of birds, flowers, trees, and insects for study. A mental and physical improvement are had as a part of the summer's vacation. A man of the faculty is in charge of the boys in one section of the camp and the girls in another part of the camp where a woman of the faculty supervises.

The camp, being carried on under the direction of Pennsylvania State Normal School at Slippery Rock, is therefore, a Pennsylvania state activity. It is the only one of its kind in Pennsylvania and possibly not duplicated elsewhere. Faculty from the nature study and health-education departments have had direct and complete charge of all that has been done.

Equipment:

All equipment used and developed is up to date. For the water crafts a well constructed

pier with diving boards is located beside a thirty foot crib for beginners. There are six canoes and more are to be purchased.

The tents are equipped with flies and wooden floors, and so withstand any weather. There is a headquarters tent, recreation tent, and mess tent. For nature study there are aquaria, insect and plant collecting outfits, such as nets and mounts, reference material, and a five-inch refractor telescope which aids greatly in the study of the skies. There is an athletic field and an excellent supply of athletic equipment. In the recreation tent is a piano and phonograph. A radio is also available. A cook cares for the inner man—and at night a watchman guards all.

Courses:

It is required that all health education students of Slippery Rock take the six weeks' work in camp before they graduate. Many others interested in Nature Study elect to take the work, which is divided into several departments as follows:

Health Education	Nature Study	
Camp Craft	Stars	Insects
Scouting	Trees	Birds
Water Sports	Flowers	Animals

1. Camp Craft:

In this every student learns the art of setting up and breaking camp. Each is required to aid in making up camp fire programs, to act as officer of the day, and to be on mess duty. A study of camp sites is made and each student constructs model camps.

2. Water Crafts:

Swimming is learned by all. This year less than half of the students could swim when the



GATHERING FOR THE EVENING CAMP FIRE PROGRAM
Slippery Rock State Normal School

camp opened. Long before breaking camp, every individual was at home in the water. All are taught to recover lost objects, to safeguard the water front, and to resuscitate drowning persons. This year fifteen students passed life saving tests as given by a representative of the American Red Cross Association, and are now recognized life savers.

In canoeing all are taught the various strokes and landings. Among canoeing activities are circling, backing, banking, silent paddling, towing overturned canoe, and overnight canoe trips.

3. Scouting:

The American Boy and Girl Scout manuals are used. All are trained to become scout leaders. Making trails, trailing, building fires, cooking and overnight hiking are emphasized. All hikes are

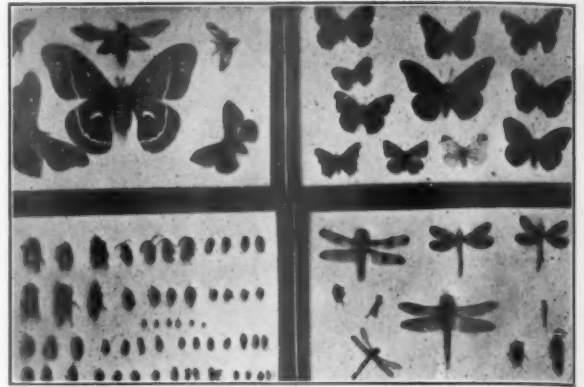


PART OF NATURE STUDY COLLECTION OF TWO STUDENTS
Slippery Rock State Normal School

motivated. There is always an objective. In addition to the health benefits, the students aim to go to an historic landmark, a literary shrine, places of art, geography or nature study interest. The strictest etiquette of the woods is observed.

B. Nature study:

The first aim is to create a feeling of familiarity with the out of doors by giving students the inquiring attitude of, "What is this?", "What is that?", and then, "What about it?", "How does it act and of what use is it to man or to nature?" The phenomena of the environment and everyday experiences are presented. Nature as well as books is studied. So few teachers are able intelligently to conduct a field trip or school journey in nature study that emphasis is put on this work. Too few children in our public schools are made to love and appreciate wild life.



A SMALL COLLECTION
Slippery Rock State Normal School

—Astronomy—

At night the bright stars, planets, and important constellations with their mythology are learned. The five-inch telescope is one of the attractions in this work and aids wonderfully towards understanding the heavenly bodies. Special pains are taken to point out Venus, Mars, the moon's surface, double stars and nebulae, and star motions.

—Plant Life—

All students must collect, press and mount a minimum collection of leaves from thirty-five species of trees. Those who do the best work learn to know many more than this, as well as one hundred fifty to two hundred non-woody plants. The more common and important plant families were studied in some detail.

—Animal Life—

Birds are studied as they sing and fly about the woods and fields. Common animals are studied, and to pass a test in these groups each student must learn in detail the life and habits of twenty-five birds and the same number of animals. A collection of insects in Riker mounts is required.



AT WORK ON NATURE NOTE BOOKS
Slippery Rock State Normal School

All are asked to learn the characters of the various insect groups, and to know something of interest about each of one hundred individual species. A few hard workers become acquainted with several hundred of nature's organisms.

—Geology—

A simple study of rocks and geological formations is included in the nature study curriculum. Note books are kept, and in them are made drawings of constellations, diagrams showing plant family characters, lists of plants belonging to these families, drawings of insect types, reports, and records of observations.

Conferences are held daily in the open (see daily program) at which students and faculty participate in a survey of nature. Students report upon individual birds, plants, insects, or animals. The instructor brings together and ties up the information in a system of groups. Principles are elucidated, and the life of nature's people is studied individually and en masse. Visual aids as specimens, models, birds flying about or singing nearby are used. An investigation of fresh water life and the aquarium are also conducted. Pictures and specimens of salt water life are available. Books on nature, botany, zoology, birds, insects, and other are available and meet the library needs. Pedagogical principles are strongly emphasized.

Because of the great variety of work carried on, students trained at the camp become broadened in their outlook. Their interest in the nation-wide movement toward outdoor recreation is enhanced and they become specialists in their field. Parents, educators, and all visitors alike have manifested an outstanding favorable reaction to the camp. All are at once enthusiastic, and it is encouraging to see success appearing from the sincere effort being made. All who complete the work outlined, and especially those who do remarkably well, (there is much to do in so short a time) are potential leaders in education and society.

There have been few innovations which really contribute to the profession of teaching and to society. But such effectively trained teachers will become most useful community leaders in playground and camps, as girl and boy scout leaders, as local school and community nature guides, and organizers of scout troops. A community nature guide is something new in the country, developed by a few progressive cities.

DAILY PROGRAM

6:00	Reveille; Setting up exercises; Morning dip
6:50	Assembly and colors
7:00	Breakfast
7:30	Sick call—Tent clean up
8:15	Conferences—practices
11:15	Swim
12:30	Dinner
1:00	Study or relaxation
2:00	Conferences and hikes, nature study and scouting
4:15	Swim
6:00	Supper
7:00	Recreation—athletics
8:15	Camp fire
9:15	Call to quarters
9:30	Taps

SUNDAY

	No conferences or hikes; swimming as usual
10:00	Sunday school
11:00	Church service with outside speaker
	Evening Song service

A Canoe Regatta

One of the most novel events of the season at Miami Beach, Florida, was held on March 25th, when under the auspices of the Department of Recreation, the South Florida Canoe Regatta became a reality.

Invitations were extended to all the canoe clubs of South Florida and to individuals who owned canoes. The result was an entry of over 30 canoes and 72 individuals. Two cups were donated by the city, one for the high point individuals and one for the high point club. Points were given on the following basis—five points for first place, three for second and one for third.

Twenty-five hundred people saw the regatta, which closed with a Ball at the municipally owned Beach, Golf and Country Club. At that time the trophies were awarded. All visitors were entertained in the homes of members of the Miami Beach Canoe Club and there was no expense attached except the transportation of the contestants and their canoes. So successful was the event that a State Canoe Regatta was planned for Memorial Day.

A 440-yard course was laid out in the widest part of Indian Creek, which is about 200 yards wide at this point.

The Problem of Camping for Playground Children

By

JAMES S. STEVENS

Director of Recreation, Springfield, Massachusetts

In almost all of our American cities we can find incredible numbers of children who do not have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of outdoor life through camping. Our private organizations have developed camping facilities for a large number who can afford to pay their way, but little thought has been given to the child who cannot afford to pay even a nominal sum.

THE SOLUTION AS DEMONSTRATED IN SPRINGFIELD

It is because of this condition that the Recreation Department of Springfield thought of conducting a free municipal playground camp where the boys and girls who came to the playgrounds might receive the thrill of a few days' outing, and the health benefits that are bound to come from such an experience.

The first thing needed was a place to house the boys and girls. A beautiful site overlooking Porter Lake in Forest Park was agreed upon, and on this was built an army type unit building containing a kitchen, dining room, sleeping accommodations for fifty and a shower room. The entire building, which is a wooden frame structure, was screened, equipped with electric lights, and connected with the city water supply. The expense of the construction of this building was approximately \$1,200.

Operation. The entire cost of operation for the first season (eight weeks and a half) was \$2,492 and this was willingly donated by merchants and a few individual citizens. Gifts included blankets, food, victrola, free entertainments and installation of the entire lighting system. The first season proved its worth. The City Council appropriated \$2,500 for last season's operation and has appropriated the same amount for this year. The supervision is handled entirely by a camp director, one assistant camp director and a cook with the volunteer service of the boys and girls themselves.

Choosing the Children. The boys and girls who

go to camp are chosen from a list of applicants by the playground directors of the various grounds. Preference is, of course, given to the most needy and suggestions from the various private and municipal charitable and family welfare organizations are always welcomed. Needless to say, a large number of those who should go cannot be cared for, but an increase in the accommodations will solve this problem. The 400 girls and 454 boys who attended last season were of 23 nationalities.

The children wear whatever clothes they have and everything else is furnished them, including blankets, tooth-brushes, soap, towels and any other needed incidentals.

The careful weight records which were kept showed an average weight increase of $2\frac{3}{4}$ pounds for a period of three days. There were still greater returns in happiness. The opportunity of living out of doors, digging in banks, hiking and sharing all of the other activities of camping life was enjoyed by a group of children who probably would never have had the opportunity if it had not been for this camp.

More Play Facilities Needed

The special joint committee to study delinquent and neglected negro children in New York City recently presented its report. They studied 890 cases of children brought before New York Children's Court in 1925. The report points out that "the contributing causes of delinquency among negro children" are

- "1. Lack of opportunities for supervised recreation.
2. Lack of parental control commonly where mothers work outside of home.
3. Retardation in school and resulting tendency to truancy."

Of fifty cases picked at random for intensive study only one child was found to have any contact with organized recreation. The Committee made six major recommendations, chief among which were recommendations for an all year round recreation program, more opportunities for club life for negro youth, increase in facilities for play by the municipality, the school system, the neighborhood centers, and development of summer camp service not only for the underprivileged but also for those who are able to pay.

What Has Resulted from Playground Beautification Activities

Reminiscent of the Harmon Foundation Beautification Contest was the meeting on playground beautification, held at the Recreation Congress, Memphis, Tennessee. That the contest had very direct results was shown by Mabel Foor of the Board of Education, who told how in December, 1924, Mr. Emmett Scott and his sister, Fanny Rumbley, gave a plot of ground as a Christmas present to the School, City of La Porte. The ground was to be under the supervision of the Board of Education and used as a public playground provided certain requirements were met. One of these was the erection of a fence to enclose the ground from the surrounding property owners. At the time, the Board of Education was financially unable to do this but after the city had entered the Beautification Contest in the fall of 1925, the fence was built. Nothing more was done, however, until the spring of 1926 when an Arbor Day celebration proved the occasion of the planting in Scott Field of 40 trees donated by various individuals and organizations. Many other improvements were made during 1926 and so effective did these prove that La Porte, Indiana, became the winner of one of the first prizes of \$500 in the Harmon Foundation Contest.

The effects of the contest are quite evident in La Porte. First of all it gave the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education the incentive to improve the school playgrounds. Resurfaced, with shrubbery planted and trees trimmed, what were previously muddy, unattractive grounds have become very desirable places for the children to play.

Another result was the impetus given by the success of La Porte in the contest to a neighboring city, which interest resulted in the conducting of an eight weeks playground program the next summer.

Still a third result came about. The local Kiwanis Club had sponsored the purchase of a tract of land for recreation purposes. Few improvements were made until 1926 when the progress made by the Scott Field spurred on the club to complete the funds necessary for the development of the playground.

In the spring of 1927 the American Legion took

charge of the Arbor Day program, planted 25 trees and erected a flag pole. Next the Board of Control of the High School cooperated with the Board of Education and last summer a comfort station with showers and dressing rooms was erected on Kiwanis Field.

Finally the city of La Porte has increased the tax levy from 2c to 3c on each \$100 of valuation, thus making more funds available for carrying on a better program. In the meantime more improvements have been made on Scott Field and this season it has been in use from daylight to dark.

All of these improvements and results are, it is believed, directly due to the Beautification Contests.

Lincoln E. Rowley, secretary of the Recreation Commission in East Orange, New Jersey, told how twenty years ago trees, shrubs and grass were planted for the first time on the East Orange Playground. Some of these trees are now thirty feet high, making, with the shrubs and flowers, a very beautiful play area. Playgrounds in East Orange are considered as parks largely because of the landscaped effects which have been produced. A result of the beautification of the public playground has resulted in the planting of beautiful lawns and flowers in the backyards adjacent to the playground.

Blue prints and charts presented by Karl Raymond of Minneapolis showed how large landscaping features have entered into the planting of the city's recreation area. Mr. Raymond called attention to the fact that while the Field is constantly in use by children and adults, there are no signs of ill treatment of shrubs and other decoration. "Play areas in Minneapolis are being landscaped," he stated, "partly because these features increase the land value of adjacent property and tend to remove any criticism on their presence on the part of adjacent property owners."

Charles J. Storey spoke of the study made by the Russell Sage Foundation to determine the effect of playgrounds on adjacent real estate values. Generally speaking, in no case was there depreciation in land values adjacent to or in the vicinity of playgrounds. Playgrounds which were poorly

kept without landscaping features had no special effect on surrounding land values. On the other hand, values appreciated where larger play areas were either partially or well landscaped in residence sections. It was the general feeling of the group that the larger the playground the more landscaping it should have and the more park like in area, the more likely it is to enhance property values of neighboring sections.

G. S. DeSole Neal, Director of Recreation, Birmingham, enumerated the results of beautification as he has observed them in Birmingham and other cities:

The beautification of play areas has a good effect on the park superintendent and other people responsible for the park and recreation development of the city. The general appearance of the city is improved, and many favorable comments are aroused. Frequently local neighborhoods have supplied from a few hundred to several thousand dollars for improvement of neighborhood play areas.

Playground beautification increases the interest of the members of a Recreation Committee when they see how attractive a playground can be made. The children themselves gain a greater love of beauty and more respect for authority. They prefer to go to the most attractive playground. The neighborhood that has a beautiful playground feels proud of it and the public is more favorably inclined to playground work.

The beautification of playgrounds increases real estate values.

Backyard Playground Contests

So successful was St. Louis' Backyard Playground Contest instituted last year that a second contest has been announced by the Park and Playground Association and St. Louis Safety Council. The closing day was August 31st. The classifications are similar to those used last year.

1. The best individual home backyard playground
2. The best neighborhood playground (vacant lot) with or without apparatus, but marked for individual or team play
3. Best apartment house playground. (May be constructed on premises or within one block of apartment)

The little folder issued, a copy of which may be secured on request from the P. R. A. A., contains a picture of one of the prize winning backyards of the 1927 contests and suggestions for the equipping of the playground.

The Cambridge, Massachusetts, League of Women Voters with the cooperation of the Board of Park Commissioners and the School Committee also conducted a contest for

1. The best individual backyard (of a single, two family or three family house) situated in four districts of the city
2. The best common backyard playground or neighborhood play lot in the city—open to yards or plots or school playgrounds used jointly by neighboring families
3. The best apartment facilities for play

This contest extended from April 15 to September 1. An attractive circular has been issued showing a diagram of an ideal playground and giving suggestions for apparatus and equipment.

Park and Playground Beautification

Construction and beautification can mean but one thing, namely, the putting together in the right places and to the best practical and aesthetic advantage the elements that compose playground and recreational fields. This necessarily involves many elements such as the location, building, surfacing of ground, fencing, equipment and planting.

There has been a noticeable lack of planning in playground beautification with respect to planting the landscaping. The planting of trees and shrubs and flowers in connection with adequate fencing should receive more attention to stimulate civic pride in the neighborhood surrounding the play parks and in the development of the appreciation of beauty among the children using these centers. Likewise a playground without a fence is unprotected, unsafe and unbeautiful; fences are indispensable as a safeguard to adjacent private property, as protection to play apparatus from rowdiness, as a preventive of children's dashing into the streets at play time, and as an added factor in the administration and control of the playground. As a part of the beautification planning, fencing provides a protection for planting and augments landscaping possibilities. It is a proved fact that beautiful play areas not only enhance real estate

values in the surrounding neighborhood, but also counteract the discordant emotions of the children using them, overcoming the usual destructive tendencies of children who are served by unattractive, barren play spaces. Playgrounds should be a place of mystery and beauty to attract those who use them. A flat piece of ground with only swings and such other play apparatus is not sufficient in itself.

Lorado Taft's statement is also worth pondering over; he says, "I wish that every park and playground might have its fit sculptural adornment—a kindly genius of the spot, as it were." This plan of beautification would be of considerable expense, but public attention might be drawn to this idea by making suggestions for including familiar characters of child lore in statue form in our parks, also ancient gardens, a miniature mine, a tunnel, secret fountains, which children and adults would not only come to love but which would add to the mystery and beauty of our layouts. As a part of the planting, trees should be introduced along the boundaries where they will not interfere with play but where through the aid of shade, play will be made more comfortable. High growing trees, not too dense, like elms, hackberries, planes and oaks suggest themselves for use; vines such as Boston Creeper, Honey-suckle, and Clematis may be introduced against the fence as well as against the shelter houses. These may be supplemented by hedge material in privets, Japanese Barberry, Dogwoods and others.

From the 1927 Report, Bureau of Recreation, Evanston, Illinois.

Solving a Playground Puzzle

In 1925 the Lions' Club of Yakima, Washington, decided on a program of playground development as its contribution to the city. In order to supplement the playground facilities provided by the Park Commission in a beautiful playground in the eastern section of the city, the club selected a site of five acres adjoining the high school athletic field. A quiet but effective campaign resulted in the securing of options of purchase on all the property in the park at prices aggregating over \$7,000. The club then gave a show, which netted over \$5,000. To raise the remaining amount necessary the Park Board and City Commissioners borrowed money from the bond sinking fund

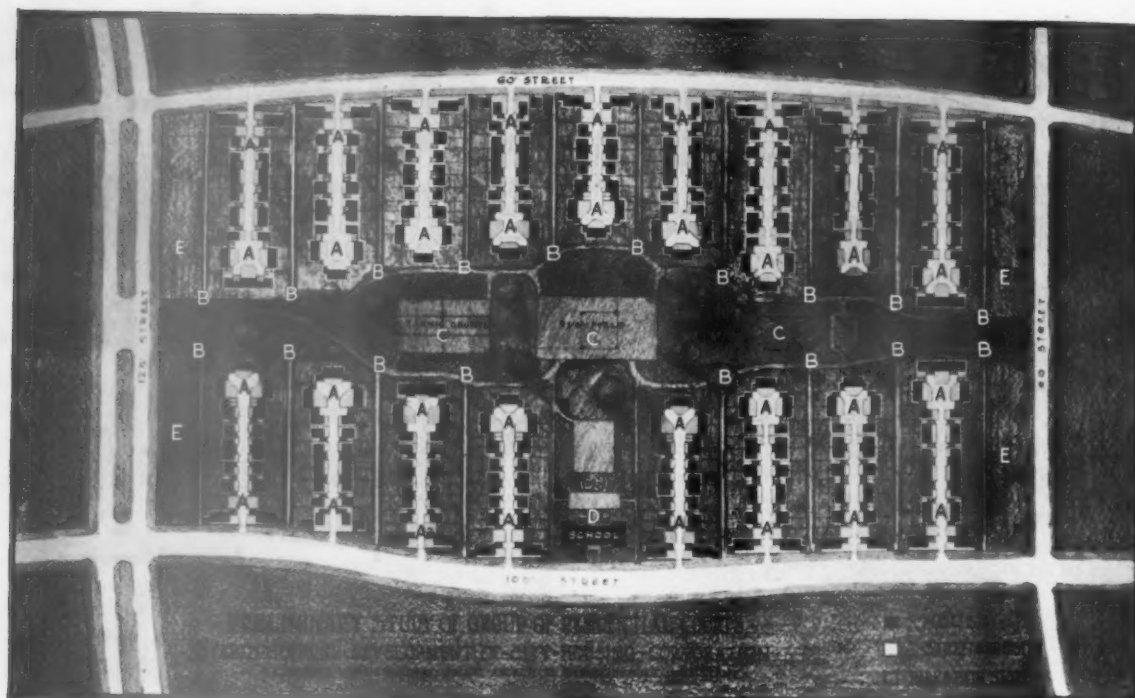
to make the purchase, the amount to be repaid from regular park funds. In order to bring this about the club prevailed on the state legislature to permit a one mill increase in the tax levy for park purposes in cities of the class of Yakima. This arrangement made it possible for all of the funds raised by the club to be used for development purposes and immediately after the purchase had been concluded the Park Board proceeded to surface the tract at a cost of over \$2,000. With the exception of a space left for a swimming pool, the plot is now surfaced, and four double tennis courts have been completed. Next summer's plans call for the planting of shrubs and the building of a wading pool. A definite landscape plan has been approved for future development. The Park Board has voted to name the playground the "Lions' Park and Playground."

A second site has been secured, consisting of ten acres of level land adjacent to a small park owned by the city and used as a tourist park. By interesting the president of the railroad owning the property the land has been purchased for \$3,000, payable in ten annual installments on deferred payments. To meet these payments the club plans to hold a dance in November or December of each year.

Radburn—A New Town

In Bergen County, New Jersey, within fifteen miles of Columbus Circle, New York, the City Housing Corporation, which has developed Sunnyside, L. I., will build a new town, a carefully planned community unique for two important reasons. For the first time the planning and building of a town will be definitely related to the age of the motor car and the method of living which has resulted from its advent. Furthermore, it will be a definite step toward a more economical and efficient growth of the New York region by providing adequately for industry and affording workers comfortable modern homes with gardens and parks without further burdening existing transit facilities.

The plan of development proposed for the 1,000 acres will make it possible for practically all residents to walk to schools, playgrounds, community centers and neighborhood shopping districts without crossing traffic streets. The town will be safe for children, pedestrians and motorists while facilitating the rapid movement of traffic. Gar-



CITY HOUSING CORPORATION
PLANNED FOR LIVING

dens, parks and playgrounds are provided as a permanent and fundamental factor in living.

The arrangement suggested is so much more economical in the costs of streets and public utilities that the proposed plan will show economies over the regular gridiron type of planning.

The development of this large tract will show notable savings in the cost of roads, public utilities and the preparation of sites for building. Building houses in large numbers will effect considerable saving in the cost of construction. Limiting the return on capital invested in the Company to 6% dividends will make for very substantial savings in the usual cost of financing. The houses will be sold on easy terms to bring them within the reach of a vast group of low wage-earners and others of moderate incomes who heretofore have been unable to afford adequate housing for their families.

This tentative plan illustrates a typical layout of a unit approximately 1,800 feet long and 1,100 feet wide. It will accommodate about six hundred families and two such units will form a school district. Variations in this plan will be made to fit the land and the several types of houses.

Opening off the main traffic thoroughfares will be short dead-end streets (A) around which

houses will be located. Each short street will therefore bear only the traffic destined for the houses fronting on it. The garages and houses will be placed close to the street, and kitchens, clothes drying, greens will be on this side. The other side of the houses will face the gardens through the center of which will run a walk (B) giving access to the park, containing recreation grounds (C) and connected directly with the school (D), community center and neighborhood shopping district (E). The Park System radiating from the principal business center will constitute the main arteries of the town for pedestrians. It will be seen from the plan that it will be possible to walk from any house in the unit to another or to schools and shopping districts without crossing traffic, and where such crossings become necessary it will be easy to eliminate danger by providing bridges or underpasses at important points.

The Spirit of Spring.—Seven thousand people viewed the charming pageant, *The Spirit of Spring*, given at Mounds Park, St. Paul, on June 1st. The Margaret Recreation Center provided the participants, 205 in number, and the Boosters' Clubs of the center and the Playground Department sponsored the affair.

Scoring for Golf and Tennis Leagues

Keith Johns, the athletic director of the Department of Recreation, St. Petersburg, Florida, has submitted the following method of scoring in golf and tennis leagues which has proved very successful.

A league form was adopted that greater interest might be stimulated. Eight teams, representing as many business firms, were established. They furnished their own equipment and material. Each team included three active players with as many on the reserve list as cared to be, these last playing among themselves for a place on the team. Players were ranked by team captains, responsible to the recreation department for the accuracy of rankings. Matches were made automatic.

The matter of scoring was an interesting one. No losses were recorded, each team receiving credit for the actual number of points earned. The net result of this scoring system was sustained interest throughout both rounds in the league.

With the marked success of the league tennis, league golf followed. The Sunshine City possesses three eighteen-hole courses, none of them strictly private. Anyone can play on any course upon payment of a daily greens fee. The two most accessible courses arranged for players to participate at a cost of fifty cents a man for each day's play.

Two six-team circuits were formed, with rules correspondingly similar. Three matches were played in each league every Sunday. Each league alternated between courses, one circuit playing in one course, while the other was on the remaining links.

Scoring here presented a much more difficult problem. However, it was worked out in this manner. Players were ranked exactly as at tennis, with the team captains responsible for ranking. Participants played one another on a match basis under what we may call a modified Nassau system of scoring. Twelve points were at stake in each team match with three for each individual match. One point for each nine holes and one for the entire eighteen as a unit was the scoring possibility. No point was discarded when a match was halved in any one unit. Full credit was given for all each earned in the competition. Instead

of giving a team victory when it won more points, each was given just what it had won. This ranking insured each individual's receiving the score which represented his natural playing ability. Thus the problem of sustaining interest among the weaker teams was solved, and a correct and fair method of scoring, which is more than half the battle in all competitive athletics, was secured.

A Luncheon Club Volley Ball League

An interesting project in Pontiac, Michigan, is the Volley Ball League conducted by the Department of Recreation, among the luncheon clubs of the city. The league, which is composed of Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, Civitan, Exchange and Junior Chamber of Commerce, meets twice weekly between 4:00 and 6:30 p. m. Each league is allowed fifty minutes to play three games. The spirit of competition is keen and the sportsmanship excellent.

The League is self-supporting, each club paying \$30.00 for the entire season of ten weeks. This pays for the rental of the gymnasium, the services of the referee and the laundering of the towels.

The by-laws of the league are as follows:

1. This league shall be governed by a committee consisting of two members from each Luncheon Club, and the Director of Recreation of Pontiac. The Director of Recreation shall act as manager for the committee.

2. Games shall be governed by Spalding's Official Volleyball Rules.

3. An entrance fee of \$30.00 per club shall be charged for the season.

4. All games shall be played on courts specified by the Tournament Committee. Any team not ready to play 15 minutes after scheduled playing time forfeits the game.

5. No game shall start with less than four men or more than six men.

6. All players must be members of their respective clubs.

7. The members of all clubs are eligible.

8. The season shall be divided into two halves. The team winning the most games shall be winner of the first half and shall play the winner of the second half for the league championship. Three out of five games shall determine the final championship.

At the Conventions

National Conference on Character Education in Schools*

The attendance and the interest manifested in the sessions of the first National Conference on Character Education indicated general recognition of the need for character training. Representatives were present from all parts of the country, many of them having attended the recent N. E. A. convention in Boston. As to methods of technique and the value of developing so-called character traits, there seemed to be some divergence of opinion. No doubt was expressed regarding the value of developing character traits by providing opportunity for self-expression in situations with other children.

Dr. Finley as President of the National Child Welfare Association opened the conference in his usual pleasing manner. He said there is no transmission of acquired character. Education and nature are similar. Education transforms a man and transforming him creates a new nature. He emphasized the fact that we must depend on education to transform character. He quoted Bishop Manning as saying, "Character is that intellectual and moral texture which all our lives long we are weaving in the inner life."

William F. Russell, Dean of Teachers College, acted as chairman. He said little other than to read two pages from *Tom Brown's School Days*. He felt that the words of Tom's father when sending him away to school showed a wonderful understanding. He asked, "What better introduction could there be in character education than reading *Tom Brown's School Days* and what better conclusion could there be than in reading *Tom Brown's School Days*."

Dr. Frank J. Arnold, District Superintendent of Schools, reviewed the efforts toward character training in the public schools since March, 1917, when a syllabus on manners was sent out. As this was merely suggestive it was neglected. Great impetus was given the movement by the offering of \$20,000 for the best public school method for

character development. The Iowa plan received this award. In 1926 the Department of Education of Washington sent out a bulletin on character education. Dr. Arnold said that long before the public became interested in this subject, notable among those organizations interested was the Pathfinders of America and that their work with children has been remarkable. He said that the Knighthood of Youth has been a widely used plan. Reference was made to many plans tried out and the statement made that different plans are required for different grades and different locations. Dr. Arnold told of a plan he has devised, based on four traits of Roger W. Babson's "Six I's of Success"—Industry, integrity, intelligence and initiative. This has been prepared in such a way as to appeal to adolescent boys in order that real effort will be made to gain recognition.

The Board of Supervisors since 1926, through a special committee, has been working on courses in character training for all grades and the work is practically completed; only final approval is needed to provide a graded syllabus for the elementary schools; a graded course in manners is included.

Dr. Kilpatrick said that character is the abiding tendency to conduct of a determined kind—it is the structure whose functioning in a situation gives conduct. To be satisfactory character must be a correlation of the desirable forms of conduct—character is the habit aspect of conduct. He said he was not making a distinction between moral character and any other kind of character but moral character was included. His subject was, "What are the essentials of character?" and in answering this question, he reiterated the words, See, Can, and Will. Applying them in judging a child's character, he said one should ask—Does this child see what to do? Can he do it? Will he do it? Does this child in this situation see what to do and why? If he does not something is wrong. Can he do it? If not, he has something to be learned. Will he do it? Has he the power of execution? Does the child have the constituents to correlate? Does he know the earmarks of the situation so he can size it up? Does he have the proper skill in judging? Does he recognize a situation and has he the concepts with which to judge it?

These concepts may be short and simple—they

*Held at Teachers' College, New York City, March 2 and 3, 1928.

should increase in inclusiveness until they make up the availability of life at the other end. The technique of execution includes the skill element. Will is the third constituent—the attitude whereby the child prefers this state of affairs to some other state of affairs. Has he the will for execution? Does he have firmness of decision? Some can hardly make up their minds and when they have they won't stay made up. The three words See, Can and Will were emphasized many times.

The constituents of character and ability to judge should be so integrated that repose of mind comes after decision. Many people because they lack proper integration are troubled about things that should have been settled long ago. Many disappointments are due to lack of integration, he said. In character a child should continually be growing, always be seeing better and better what to do, and improve in technique and in will to do. Many failures are due not so much to inability to see and ability to do but to lack of will to carry a decision through to execution.

Frank S. Hackett, of the Riverdale Country School for Boys, said that the "Independent Schools" gave unusual opportunity for self discipline and this tends to bring about a better order working toward closer brotherhood. They have opportunity for closer relationship with the teachers and for observing their manner of living. He expressed the opinion that character is not a dissociated element but is a by-product of every day living—a conception of living and being itself, inextricably interwoven. The independent schools give opportunity for more frequent interviews and greater opportunity to discriminate between an honest careful piece of work and that which is less so. Special emphasis was placed on the selection of teachers of culture and refinement and high human interest. They require high standards of work and take abundant time for play, even with the teachers themselves. This he felt helps to develop ideals of sportsmanship much higher than would be possible with a professional coach. He said at the present time the discussion group is gaining in vogue and they meet once a week to discuss problems that arise. He felt that boys and girls should be so disciplined in methods of work—that they should realize they are educating themselves to contribute something to the world.

The Reverend Dr. W. F. Lawler, Superintendent of the Parochial Schools of Northern Diocese of New Jersey, said that character in general is an expression of nature as revealed in terms of

human conduct and that no act of a rational human being can be devoid of morality. He felt that training the will to repeat exercises of specific moral acts tends to establish fixed moral habits in the soul. He said they labor to bring their children into that spiritual environment which speaks incessantly of the soul and the inexorable laws of justice. They stress the "eternal verities." Consideration for others is taught through fair play methods. Thrift habits are taught by setting up devices to teach industry. He felt that they have greater opportunity to teach character in the parochial schools because their teachers make teaching a life work and there is no compensation in it for them.

Henry Neuman, of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, said the daily papers are continually bringing home to us the enormousness of the problems with which we are dealing. He felt that while religion is a great help, pinning our faith to any one device or institution is apt to make us forget how great the need for character training is. The fundamental thing, he said, is something that cannot be recorded by any device or showing of records. Children resent having anyone tell them what is best for them. The question was asked, what could be done in the face of so much influence in defeating the ends of justice as is reported in the press. "If character training is going to do more than scratch the surface of life," he said, "every possible help that the school and church can give must be used always with the understanding that the devices are to be discarded when better ones come along to take their place. Too much reliance must not be placed on them and we must not think of character cut off from the rest of a child's life." The teacher sees opportunity in every situation. In the practice of discussing current event problems it is possible to get certain kinds of character help. In their discussion groups they find boys and girls anxious to express themselves. They are required to first repeat what the previous speaker said, then to answer the question, Where do you agree with him? Then they are asked, What do you think? When this plan is followed they are likely to be more careful in judgment and to take into consideration the other person's point of view. They feel that questions in civics offer the best opportunity for discussion.

Miss Knox told of her work in Public School No. 15 and expressed the opinion that it is high time a definite course of study in good manners

and character training is put in the hands of every teacher in America. She told several incidents of bad manners observed in public places, and of discussions heard among school children indicating very lax standards. She expressed the opinion that the schools should take the responsibility of educating the children and that the children will then educate the parents. She told some of the splendid results they had obtained in her district where there are 2,000 children with not more than 100 parents born in America.

FRIDAY EVENING

John H. Denbigh, of Packer Institute, Brooklyn, acted as Chairman. He said it was significant that the National Child Welfare Association had arranged the conference and that emphasis was placed on the fact that character rather than knowledge is the thing to be desired. He expressed the opinion that the school has no end or aim except so far as it is concerned with social living and that our first duty is to make the school a genuinely vital social organization. It is necessary to emphasize training so it shall make for habits of service, so that it shall make for education tending toward self control. It was stated that in order to find out whether students are receiving proper training, the teachers now go to specialists in the different fields.

Dr. Maurice A. Bigelow said that the physical aspects of character education are primarily within the domain of human biology. He was taking it for granted, he said, that a person's character is the sum total of his traits, inherited or acquired, which constitute his personality and that the aim of character education is to so direct the adjustment of native qualities and the acquisition of new ones to the end that at maturity the individual will be related as harmoniously as possible to other human individuals.

From a biologist's point of view, he said, the lines of influence which unite to determine character are (1) germinal or hereditary, (2) physiological effects of natural environment, and (3) psychological effects of social environment. The fact that the aim of character education lies entirely within the field of the third group of influences has led to erroneous thinking that character education may be a simple matter of teaching conduct. It is true chiefly for manners acquired by tradition or by education; but qualities which have a deep rooted physical basis such as excessive irritability cannot be adjusted as

easily. The physical basis of character education is, he said, a more or less elastic combination of germinal tendencies plus environmental action. In so far as the mechanism proves elastic, it is possible through education to mold or adapt the conduct of the individual. It was stated that in any stage of character education, it must not be forgotten that we are working on a highly elastic physical basis with a strong tendency toward return to original nature. It was stated that certain groups of criminologists have grossly exaggerated the idea of inflexible hereditary tendencies leading to a special type of crime. In modern science this is not considered tenable, but there are certain conditions of the nervous organs which have their origin in the germ cells. A psychologically inclined biologist is impressed by the evidence that many qualities can be traced from generation to generation and are therefore due to a physical basis. The old folk-legend, he said, that a meat diet tends toward developing characteristics of the tiger and lion, while a vegetarian develops the gentleness of the lamb and the cow has, of course, gone with the brilliant discovery that bulls and billy goats and other pugnacious animals also eat grass.

It was stated that the science of nutrition is showing there are many positive environmental relations to the physical basis of character. There is no doubt but that physiologic disturbances in young human beings may seriously affect growth, health and, indirectly, the possible development of character. Physiologists are aware of the existence of many delicate balances between internal functions and natural environment and until we learn to keep the balance at the optimum during the first two decades of life, we shall find young persons whose character education is hampered by physical conditions. He urged giving young people who do not respond to attempts at character education the benefit of the doubt and to try to get scientific diagnosis of the possible physical difficulties in each individual case.

Dr. Hartshorne said that many otherwise normal people seem to be questioning whether character education has any intellectual aspects, and he said there is much human behavior that lends support to this notion. In the course of studies in behavior carried on by the Character Education Inquiry conduct tendencies of several thousand children have been measured. Deception was one of the tendencies. The extent to which children will take advantage of various opportu-

nities to cheat and lie and steal have been recorded by various objective tests. Such scores are not regarded as measures of character but merely measures of tendencies to perform acts generally regarded as evidences of maladjustment. They have found a persisting tendency for honesty and intelligence to go together, though many children of low I. Q. cheated on more of the tests, and some of relatively high I. Q. cheated on all of them. Children who stood highest in moral judgment in tests did not invariably stand highest in conduct. In many cases knowledge of right and wrong was accompanied by anti-social behavior, and in most cases there was no relation between the two. A class that is high on the average in moral knowledge will also be high in conduct even though they show little evidence of comprehending ethical significance.

Groups were selected for comparison from those who attended Sunday schools or Jewish religious schools and those which did not. Differences were found among the schools but the religiously trained showed no consistent superiority over the rest. This was not considered conclusive, for the same children were not superior in moral knowledge scores either. They turned to organizations which teach honesty and clear cut ethical standards and compared members with non-members only to find no general difference and that in many groups more extended association was accompanied by greater deceptiveness. It was stated that as yet the use of intellect in character education has not been widely attempted. He stated as some of the possibilities of such employment of mind, guidance in the way things can be done in the light of increasing knowledge of human needs, the substitution of facts for superstition. He also stated that the foresight of consequences may become as much a matter of scientific prediction on the basis of knowledge of social and psychological law as the figuring of the load a bridge will carry through various methods. Scientific morality, he said, waits for the development of a real science of society.

In answering the question, what is the first step to take in the intelligent control of behavior, attention was called to the bridge builder and the need for sketching a picture of the completed product and the drawing of specifications. He advocated projecting ideals of the society that is to be built and then to work to discover the means for advancing society in the direction of these

ideals. He defined character as the art of realization—of so living that scientifically determined means are adapted to the achievement of ideals. "The second use of mind in morals is," he said, "the discovery of how to control the processes of living through methods discovered by scientific research." The use of intellect in character education implies training in prediction of consequences, criticism of such consequences for or against a social order interested in folks, and the effort to discover behaviors which will make such a social order possible. He closed his remarks by saying that when children are invited by adults to cooperate with them in these uses of mind, we shall have genuine education in character.

Miss Marian Walker, a teacher in the Nursery School, said they take children from 18 months to 4 years of age. Provision is made for indoor and outdoor play. They find the children continually form habits and attitudes are built up by experience. Home is a world for adults while in school a child has children his own age to play with. At home they frequently have too many adjustments to make and in the nursery school plan the teacher's only business is to find out about the individual children and the best environment for them. The young children are individualistic, they like to be where other children are but they do not play in groups. The whole thing is planned for the individual child. The program is flexible except for times for eating and sleeping. Few standards are set and it is found when the children can settle their own difficulties, it is much more lasting.

Miss Agnes Burke, a teacher of First Grade, said that in order to protect the children, a teacher must control them in order that they do not interfere with each others' rights. As soon as a situation comes up they solve it, the teacher acting as leader. Children gain in ability to solve their problems and are assisted only in cases of absolute necessity. Her aim is to have the control decision come from within the group and in talking problems over they decide what is best to do. They see a situation but sometimes have no ability to solve it, the teacher then makes suggestions and the children make the decision. Each time they come up against a situation they are better able to solve it. She spoke of the necessity of taking plenty of time to allow a clear understanding.

Successful Congress Forecast

The response to the new program set-up, the acceptances to date from prominent speakers who have been invited to appear on the platform, and the number of early registrations, all give promise of the most successful Recreation Congress in the history of the recreation movement.

The new program plan which involves meetings at eleven o'clock each morning at which one person from each of the eight discussion groups of the day before will report to the entire Congress the results of the discussions and the conclusions reached, has met with interest and approval from a number of recreation executives. It is pointed out that in this way every delegate will get a summary of the meetings he was not able to attend. In addition, the entire week's discussions will be summarized on Friday morning.

Robert M. Moses, chairman of the New York State Park Commission; Jay Downer, chief engineer of the Westchester County Park Commission; Duncan Spaeth, professor of English Literature at Princeton University; Gustavus T. Kirby, president of the Public Schools Athletic League of New York City; Joseph Lee, president of the Playground and Recreation Association of America; Dr. George D. Strayer, director of the Institute of Educational Research; Mrs. S. M. Gruenberg, director of the Child Study Association of America; and John Nolen, city planner, are among the assured headliners on the program.

The subject matter of the Congress is novel in that it is focused entirely on "Things," that is, the materials, equipment, and apparatus of all kinds employed in recreation programs.

Concluding the fifteenth Recreation Congress, the second national playground miniature aircraft tournament will hold the interest of the delegates. In the sixty odd leading communities where local tournaments are now in progress, great enthusiasm is reported among the boys and girls who are constructing and flying model aircraft of various types.

Unquestionably, the fifteenth Congress will be a rich feast of information and inspiration to all students and workers in the field of leisure time activities. Don't miss it!

Parks Add to the Joy of Life

ROBERT B. BRADBURY,

*Assistant Secretary, Indiana Association of Park
Departments*

One of the charms of the work of a Board of Park Commissioners of any city lies in the realization of its direct beneficence to all classes of people and to all ages, to the factory owner and to the factory worker, to the store owner and to the store worker, to the children who frolic under the trees and paddle in the wading pool, to the youths on the ball diamond and tennis courts, and to the old men, who, having reached the allotted span of three score and ten, have dropped out of the mad struggle for dollars, but have learned from Robert Louis Stevenson or somewhere else that play, after all, is the very pick of life, and who can be seen any summer afternoon in the parks, watching with the zest of boys the games and contests, and living over again their own youthful days. In fact, there is no class of people or any age that does not take advantage, some time or other, of beautiful parks if they are fortunate enough to have them in their neighborhood. Few, if any, pleasure rides are taken by the residents, without starting or ending with a little run through one of the parks. Recently a little girl in one of Muncie's schools said, "Sure, I have been out in the country; I have been out in McCulloch Park," and it is the aim of the Indiana Association of Park Departments to help provide some little touch of the country, some place for the children and the oldsters to play, for all our people.

The people of many communities realize the value of good parks and recreational facilities. In other places, this is not the case. It is the wish of this State Association to make it possible to have parks and playgrounds in every city and every town in Indiana; where such a system is now in existence and doing good work, to help the wide-awake park commissioners there to make it even better; where the park system is merely existing, to rouse the people to demand more and better parks; and where there are no parks whatever to educate the people and interest them in this most important help to mankind so that proper steps will be taken to insure proper playgrounds and parks for the people, whether young or old.

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'Tis doubtful if we'd disagree.
But, not having yet clasped hands,
Both often fail to understand
That each intends to do what's right
And treat each other honor bright.
How little of complaint there'd be
If I knew you and you knew me."

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Play

Play

What One Recreation Council Is Doing

"I have always had a feeling," writes Mrs. W. O. Asseln of St. Paul, "that while working hard in our parent-teacher work, much of our good efforts were lost because the rest of the community was not taking its share of the burden in the character building program; our delinquents were on the increase and something had to be done. So at our conference one day I suggested a survey be made to determine where we were lacking and that we then proceed to remedy the trouble."

And out of this grew the East District Recreation Council, for the survey showed that there was little which was constructive in the particular district concerned. A conference was called of all the churches, parent-teacher associations, schools, commercial clubs, lodges and other organized groups, and the East District Recreation Council was organized "to assist the forces of community organizations, agencies and movements for society's advancement to function efficiently in the district."

The Council was organized two years ago. Since that time the City Planning Board has made for the Council a map showing the physical features of the city which is registering the results of the two years' work. All recreation and social workers are being benefited, for people of the district, through the education in the use of recreation facilities which the Council is carrying on, are making greater use of what the different groups have to offer.

For two years the Council has sponsored a Community Hallowe'en celebration and Christmas Carol singing. The community carnival which it fosters is always a success. The Recreation Council Band is a splendid demonstration of united effort which works for youth the year round. Last summer the Council sponsored art classes in parks and this year story telling will be added to the park program. Through one of the musical organizations violin and piano lessons are being provided at 25 cents a half hour for children who cannot afford private lessons.

Kenmore's Athletic Field

Kenmore, New York, a village of 11,000 people, ten years ago purchased 15 acres of land at \$45,000 to be developed as an athletic field. The history of the construction of the field is particularly interesting, as the student body had an important part in the work. The athletic field was drained by 17,000 feet of tile. Not only was this tile laid by the students, but an additional 11,000 feet under the baseball diamond and in the tennis court section was also laid by the students making a total of 25,000 feet. Through this volunteer labor over \$10,000 was saved in construction cost.

The complete recreation field consists of a battery of eight clay tennis courts, six quoit courts, a major baseball field and a children's playground with apparatus, play space and an artistic shelter house with lavatories, space for storing equipment and a warming room. The athletic field, which is the chief feature of the development, contains a full size football field, a quarter mile running track, a 220-yard straightaway 24 feet wide, and parking space for 300 cars with a private automobile entrance and exit on the side away from the pedestrians' entrance. This arrangement makes it unnecessary for children to cross the automobile road on entering the playground.

In connection with the athletic field are concrete bleachers with dressing rooms, showers and lavatories for both home and visiting teams. The bleachers now completed form one unit seating 825 spectators. Other units will be added later.

A concrete curb surrounds the play space in the children's playground and this area is flooded for skating in winter. During the skating season crowds of people take advantage of the facilities each night. There is an undeveloped area in connection with the field where additional tennis courts will be built. The corners, surrounding spaces and frontages, are all planted according to a definite plan for beautification.

The present value of the field is \$185,000. Its ownership is held by the Kenmore School District, which administers the field and the tennis courts. The playground and skating facilities are under the direction of the village of Kenmore and back of the development is a Taxpayers Association. The cost of leadership is shared by the Board of Education and the village.



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Each year brings increasing demand for the use of Solvay Flake Calcium Chloride to provide a dustless, smooth, and sanitary surface for children's playgrounds. Dust is unsanitary; it carries many germs harmful to children, as well as to adults.

Solvay Calcium Chloride is a white, odorless, flaky material that absorbs moisture from the air and retains it on the playing surface, which remains very slightly damp and therefore free from dust.

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lays the dust, and has a decided germicidal action which has attracted the unqualified endorsement of physicians and playground directors.

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You will find Solvay Flake Calcium Chloride a real economy for the proper maintenance of playgrounds and tennis courts. Anyone can apply Solvay—just open the 100-lb. bag or 375-lb. drum and spread the material evenly over the surface. 75 conveniently located shipping points assure you prompt service.

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Jungle Gym—

The Answer to the Summer Playground Question

The Jungle Gym is a whole playground in itself. The number 2 model pictured above is capable of handling 100 children at a time—the only thing being necessary is space to set it up. And what an economy in space compared with many other amusement devices.

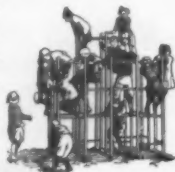
Not only has the Jungle Gym met the approval of expert play leaders and physical educators, but the children themselves love it, because it meets their natural instinct to climb. Safe at all times.

Jungle Gym No. 2\$250

A Miniature Jungle Gym—

is this Jungle Gym, Jr. Made of either selected wood or galvanized steel tubing. Will allow at least 15 children to play in a ground space of 5 x 7 feet.

Steel\$125
Wood\$50



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Kites, Marbles and Crime

Through unnumbered public, semi-public and private agencies, society exerts itself to determine the causes and the cure of crime. The policing machinery established by communities, states and the nation is elaborate and costly. There is the immense American judicial mill, devoted partly to administration of the criminal law, determining in an endless round of deliberations the guilt or innocence of armies of accused. In the background are frowning walls of prisons, reformatories, detention schools and jails, crammed with the flotsam and jetsam of humanity, condemned to warped and futile existence by the baffling factor in social experience known as crime.

It is an appalling picture. No wonder state crime commissions, research foundations, sociologists, jurists, penologists and scientific men of many fields concentrate their energies and their hopes upon projects to diminish the aggregate of crime.

The tendency is to seek for the causes of crime in the mental and physical makeup of criminals and in the environment which produces disordered and intractable characteristics.

With crime regarded as an individual ailment, the emphasis in seeking means of prevention falls naturally upon individual health. The link between physical, mental and moral health is recognized as a close one. The formative years of youth comprise the period when the foundation is established for adult physical and mental well being.

It appears that the youth of St. Paul, intent upon marble contests, airplane tournaments, boat building contests, corner lot baseball games, kite flying, playground festivals, grade and high school study and competition of all sorts, is saving for itself a great deal of sorrow and for the city and the state a great deal of trouble in future years.

These boys who are flying kites, shooting marbles and building boats are acquiring the right slant on life in healthy contacts with their fellows. The modern emphasis upon child health is in their favor. In the sound environment of the school room and the playground they are preparing themselves for useful places in the social order.—Editorial from Pioneer Press and Dispatch, St. Paul, June 8, 1928.



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Book Reviews

THE CHILD AND THE HOME. By Ernest R. Groves, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C. Price, \$.25

This booklet of references has been prepared for parents, teachers, club women and others who wish a brief but serviceable list of reading which will help them in carrying on individual or group study of child and family problems. The references are classified under the general heads: 1, The Child; 2, Parenthood; 3, Family Problems; 4, Marriage; 5, Reading Courses; 6, Articles on the Child; 7, Articles on the Family and 8, Articles on Marriage.

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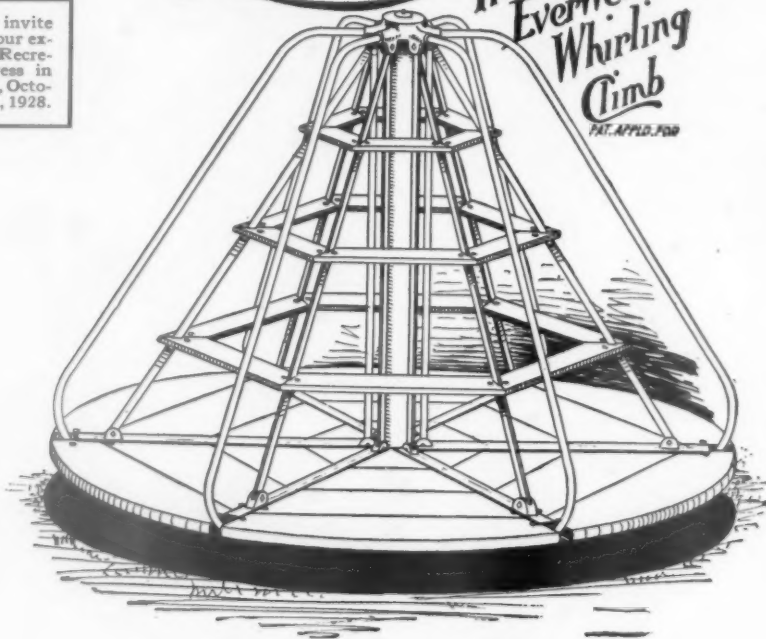
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